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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-075
Wednesday
21 April 1993

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-075

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21 April 1993

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Japan

Reaction to Sharp Rise in Value of Yen Continues

Miyazawa: Clinton Silent on Yen at Summit

OW2104055193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0552 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday [21 April] that U.S. President Bill Clinton did not express a preference for a stronger yen against the dollar in their April 16 summit in Washington. Miyazawa commented on his talks with Clinton in response to a question from Mikio Abe of the Social Democratic Party in the Diet.

Testifying before a special parliamentary panel on political reform, Miyazawa said he told Clinton there had been a 69 percent increase in American exports to Japan between 1987 and 1992, partly because of the 1985 Plaza Accord on exchange rate realignment. After the meeting with Miyazawa, Clinton told reporters the yen's appreciation in recent weeks should help cut Japan's trade surplus.

Currency traders say Clinton's reported statement on exchange rates after the Washington meeting has prompted the further surge in the value of the yen against the dollar this week. Earlier in the day, Miyazawa told reporters the oil industry has not accumulated enough foreign exchange profits from the yen's recent upsurge to lower prices of products such as gasoline and fuel oil.

Miyazawa said he did not interpret Clinton's call for a stronger yen as an expression of the will of the U.S. Government. "I do not believe (Clinton's remarks) imply that the U.S. Government expressed its desire for (the value of the dollar) to be this or that," the premier said in response to a question from opposition member Mikio Abe.

The premier also said Clinton expressed his appreciation of Japan's efforts to bolster its domestic economy by compiling a 13 trillion yen fiscal stimulus package. He emphasized that he turned down a U.S. request to set specific numerical goals which Japan might be obligated to reach in attempting to increase imports of U.S. products in specified trade sectors. He said he also told Clinton Japan would demand a revision in certain parts of a set of trade liberalization proposals advanced by Arthur Dunkel, chief of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Miyazawa Rules Out Oil Price Cuts

OW2104040793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0401 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday [21 April] the oil industry has not accumulated enough foreign exchange profits from the yen's recent upsurge to lower prices of products such as gasoline and fuel oil. "Petroleum prices are set

low, and (the yen's advance) is not enough to create exchange profits," Miyazawa told reporters at the Diet. But he suggested a possibility of profit returns from other imports, saying prices of "ordinary items are falling... like parallel imports," goods that are imported directly and not through trading companies.

Meanwhile, a senior Economic Planning Agency official said, "If the yen stays at the current 10-percent higher level, Japan's nominal economic growth rate will see a minus of 0.4 percent." The official's remark was made during a meeting of parliamentary vice ministers at the prime minister's official residence in the morning.

Finance Minister: Yen Surge 'Temporary'

OW2104043693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0434 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—The dollar's plunge on the foreign exchange market is a "temporary phenomenon," Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Wednesday, predicting a quick rebound of the U.S. currency. The dollar ended the Wednesday morning session in Tokyo at 110.45 yen, after hitting a record intraday low of 109.90 yen.

Hayashi also told reporters that Japan is keeping in touch with other Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations on developments in the volatile foreign exchange market. He was noncommittal, however, on the possibility of asking other G-7 nations to make a coordinated intervention in the market to stabilize the exchange rate.

Hayashi indicated later Wednesday that the monetary authorities are ready to intervene in the foreign exchange market to stabilize the exchange rate. Speaking at a meeting of the House of Representatives Finance Committee, Hayashi said the government will take appropriate action to deal with wild fluctuations in the market. He said instability in the market is "undesirable."

Hayashi also told the committee that measures for stabilizing the foreign exchange market will be the focus of discussions at a meeting of financial officials from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations to be held later this month in Washington. He declined to discuss, however, specific measures for stabilizing the market.

Hayashi: Further Rise 'Counterproductive'

OW2104100493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—The yen's surge is leaving government officials worried that it could sap effects of the 13.2 trillion yen economic package adopted earlier this month, dampening hopes for economic recovery. Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi expressed strong concern about the spiraling yen Wednesday [21 April], saying a further rise of the yen would be counterproductive to the economy.

"Industry has been left in a tough environment even by the yen's advance to date... a further rise would have negative effects on the economy and put a lid on domestic demand," Hayashi said. The yen soared to a new postwar high of 109.90 yen to the dollar momentarily in Tokyo Wednesday before finishing at 110.35 yen. The yen has gained as much as 10 percent against the dollar this year.

According to the Economic Planning Agency, a 10 percent increase in the yen's value against the dollar, if in place for a year, would translate into a decline of 0.43 percentage point in the pace of growth in gross national product. The yen's rally began last Friday with U.S. President Bill Clinton's remark supporting a stronger yen as a way to rectify Japan's trade surplus with the United States.

The Finance Ministry, unable to find any cure to stem the yen's advance without dollar-supporting intervention by central banks other than Japan's, is sending a message that a stronger yen will not work to reduce the trade gap. "The yen's rise should serve to boost Japan's trade surplus rather than to reduce it," a senior ministry official said, citing the so-called J-curve effect resulting from higher book values of purchases already in the pipeline, as well as a possible delay in economic recovery and the resulting erosion in domestic demand. But many currency dealers said it would be difficult to halt the yen's rise unless central banks in other Group of Seven industrial nations intervene to stop the dollar's tumble.

Finance Official Concerned Over Rise

*OW2104101193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official Wednesday expressed concern over the abrupt appreciation of the yen against the dollar, saying the movement is "too rapid, speculative," and it could have negative impact on the Japanese economy. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said from a long-term perspective, there is both good and bad about the higher yen, but in the short run, it could harm business sentiment, which is still recovering. He said U.S. President Bill Clinton's recent remarks on the appreciation of the yen are clearly referring to those of the past and not that he was anticipating a further advance of the Japanese currency.

Interpretations of Clinton's remarks have triggered the latest round of the dollar's plunge, which temporarily took it to sink below the 110-yen level Wednesday for the first time since the end of World War II. Clinton said on Friday "the appreciation of the yen" contributes to increasing U.S. exports, which the foreign exchange market took it as a sign of the United States is favoring a higher yen.

Meanwhile, asked whether the Finance Ministry received a protest from the U.S. Treasury Department about its briefing on last week's meeting by Finance

Minister Yoshiro Hayashi and Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, the senior ministry official first gave no comment, but then added it is not unusual that governments have differences over what was said at bilateral meetings. In a report from Washington, a Japanese news agency quoted Treasury Department sources as saying the department has protested the Finance Ministry for giving an incorrect press briefing on the Hayashi-Bentsen meeting held in Tokyo.

A Finance Ministry official told reporters Hayashi and Bentsen agreed that rapid appreciation of the yen is undesirable, but according to the report, Bentsen made no remarks on foreign exchange rates at their meeting. The anonymous Finance Ministry official indicated the ministry's briefer was probably referring to something in general and not to any specific case. Nonetheless, market watchers said the report added fuel Wednesday in Tokyo to speculations that the U.S. is allowing the dollar's current plunge.

Despite an apparently solitary effort by the Bank of Japan (BOJ) to support the dollar in Tokyo, they said the absence of signs that other Group of Seven (G-7) major economies are interested in capping the dollar's decline is also contributing to spur yen-buying sentiment. The senior Finance Ministry official joked that it seems as if the dollar plummets by 2 yen each time a senior U.S. official refers to the dollar-yen exchange rate. But he added the G-7 nations are always in close contact and there are no divisions among the members over the foreign exchange rate policy.

The official also said the ministry is planning to submit a draft supplementary budget to the Diet around mid-May to raise funds for the 13.2 trillion yen economy stimulus program announced on April 13 and for extension of aid to Russia. He said the ministry is still working on the scale and details of the supplementary budget.

Muto: G-7 Currency Intervention Sought

*OW2104041893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0413 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Japan will ask other members of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations to make a coordinated intervention in the foreign exchange market to stabilize the rising value of the yen, Foreign Minister Kabuo Muto said Wednesday. Answering questions at the House of Representatives security committee, Muto said the request will be made at a meeting of G-7 financial officials to be held later this month in Washington. The foreign minister also criticized U.S. President Bill Clinton for making remarks last week indicating toleration of the yen's appreciation.

Clinton told reporters after a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Washington that the yen's recent advance should help cut Japan's trade surplus. "It is highly unusual and regrettable" for a national leader to comment on foreign exchange rates, Muto said.

Muto also said he disagreed with Clinton over ways of correcting the trade imbalance, suggesting the U.S. should try to solve the problem by increasing its competitiveness, not by using the foreign exchange mechanism. Regarding Miyazawa's remarks to reporters after the summit indicating that Japan will be able to achieve a 3.3 percent economic growth rate in fiscal 1993, Muto said the figure does not represent a specific commitment by the Japanese Government.

Cabinet Secretary Blames Speculators

OW2104030293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0302 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono reiterated Wednesday that the surge in the value of the yen is too rapid, as the currency hit a new record high of 109.90 yen to the dollar momentarily in morning Tokyo interbank trading. Kono attributed the rise to speculation, saying the surge does not represent a change in Japan's economic fundamentals.

He said he does not regard a comment by U.S. President Bill Clinton last Friday in favor of a strong yen as a signal the yen should soar higher. "I hope there will be no misinterpretation" of Clinton's remark, Kono said.

Finance Officials on Market 'Overreaction'

OW2104040293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0344 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—The dollar's plunge below 110 yen is an overreaction by the foreign exchange market to remarks made by U.S. President Bill Clinton last week, a high-ranking Finance Ministry official said Wednesday. The market is "simply overreacting" to the president's comments Friday [19 April] that the yen's appreciation should help boost U.S. exports, despite explanations made later by the White House that Clinton's remarks were not intended to drive the yen higher, the official said.

Another top ministry official also said Japan will keep in close contact with other Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations to take whatever measures are necessary as too rapid an advance of the yen would negatively affect the Japanese economy. The official, however, said he does not expect the current phenomenon to last very long, predicting a rebound of the dollar. The U.S. currency ended the morning session in Tokyo at 110.45 yen, after hitting a record intraday low of 109.90 yen.

Business Leaders Concerned Over Rise

OW2104054893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0534 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Japan's business leaders expressed concern Wednesday that a continued advance of the yen against the U.S. dollar could drag down the nation's economy which has only recently showed some signs of recovery. The yen hit a record

intraday high of 109.90 yen to the U.S. currency at one point in Wednesday morning trading in Tokyo.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai) called the yen's advance "a natural move considering the external trade surplus of Japan." But Isao Yonekura, a vice chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) said, "Rapid rises of the yen will throw cold water on the economy just as it is expected to bottom out."

Business leaders generally are worried about the fast pace of the yen's rise and the impact on exporters and smaller businesses. The various business sectors will strengthen their calls on the government and monetary authorities to stabilize the yen in foreign exchange markets and to take adequate measures to protect smaller firms, business sources said.

'Sources': Surge Could Affect Keiretsu

OW2104094293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—The recent appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar is prompting Japanese companies to expand their overseas manufacturing operations, industry sources said Wednesday [21 April]. The higher value of the yen reduces Japanese firms' production costs overseas.

The companies are also moving to raise their dollar-based export prices, sell the dollar and buy the yen in currency futures transactions in order to cut exchange losses, and make a complete review of their international strategies, the sources said.

Automobile tire manufacturer Bridgestone Corp. is encouraged by the appreciation of the yen, which it says benefits its U.S. production venture. Bridgestone managing director Takeshi Uchiyama said its production costs in the United States and Japan "would be about the same" at an exchange rate of 110 yen to the dollar. A further appreciation of the yen would make U.S. production costs lower, he said. Bridgestone is pushing a program to expand production in the U.S., Europe, and Japan to meet local market needs.

Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of Toyota Motor Corp., said the company has no choice but to increase production in the U.S., Europe, and Asia and expand imports of products from its overseas production facilities. Sony Corp., which has 40 plants and four research laboratories overseas, also intends to expand its overseas operations, company officials said. At the same time, the appreciation of the yen could erode the "keiretsu" ties—or interlocking corporate relations through mutual stock ownerships—among Japanese companies, the sources said.

Major Japanese shipbuilders, for example, have long had such ties with domestic steelmakers and depended on them for the supply of steel plates. Some of them, however, are moving to import the product from South

Korea, taking advantage of the higher value of the yen, the sources said. Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries Co., among the Japanese shipbuilders, plans to increase purchases of machinery parts and components from overseas, company officials said. One executive, who asked to remain anonymous, said the appreciation of the yen could seriously affect the Japanese "keiretsu" ties.

Keidanren Leader Concerned Over Clinton Trade Policy

OW2104044993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0442 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] New York, April 20 KYODO—The head of Japan's most powerful business group expressed strong concern Tuesday over U.S. President Bill Clinton's trade policy toward Japan. Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said, "Where there is no economic growth, unreasonable ideas of balancing trade accounts bilaterally and controlled trade methods come to power." "I feel strong fears about such moves," he said at a dinner hosted in New York by the Japan Society.

Hiraiwa was apparently referring to the U.S. administration's "results-oriented" trade policy as unveiled by Clinton at his talks with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Washington last Friday. Clinton told reporters after the meeting he wants "specific results" on specific sectors of the economy in boosting U.S. exports to Japan.

On the yen's rapid appreciation, Hiraiwa said, "There are some merits, but I'm worried about the drag on the Japanese economy." "The two nations should be linked with common dreams and wishes for the world instead of threatening one another," he said.

Tokyo, U.S. Urged To Lead Nuclear-Free World

OW2004130393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1037 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. research institutes urged Japan and the United States on Tuesday to take the lead in promoting international cooperation to build a nuclear-free world. Japan's International Institute for Global Peace and Harvard University's Center for Science and International Affairs issued the joint policy proposal at the close of a two-day international conference co-sponsored by them. The Japanese institute is chaired by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

With the Cold-War era over, attention is now focused on reducing nuclear arms and eliminating nuclear excess, the proposal said, noting that Japan and the U.S. have stakes in the course of the denuclearization issue. "Japan and the United States share a common interest in the success of denuclearization, which has global implications and will profoundly affect the character of the new international order," said the proposal entitled "post

Cold-War cooperative denuclearization and plutonium issues." "It can also provide an opportunity for Japan to play a larger and more responsible role in the new international order by showing leadership and initiative in contributing to the desired disarmament process."

Speaking to reporters, Nakasone said nuclear management is an important problem to Japan, adding, "I will do my utmost to have this issue brought up for discussion at the Tokyo summit" of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations set for July 7-9. He said he informed Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa of the key concepts of the joint proposal and that the prime minister showed interest in it. As part of efforts to create post-Cold War security, the proposal urged all countries concerned to swiftly ratify and implement the START I and II nuclear missile reduction treaties.

The proposal also called on former Soviet republics other than Russia to join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) so as to check the spread of nuclear weapons held by those countries. It noted the need for the international community to help former Soviet republics with their denuclearization efforts as those countries face political and economic disarray. Japan's commitment to an international denuclearization program will serve as a vital contribution to the effort to enhance a safe and stable world order, including the promotion of a more secure environment in East Asia, the proposal stated.

Meanwhile, Nakasone spoke of the need to create an international framework to promote denuclearization efforts when the NPT comes up for renewal in 1995 so as to ensure adherence to the nuclear control pact. He also spoke of the need for more countries to join the 1970 accord. The proposal stated an international coordinating institution should be set up with Japan and the U.S. as the key founding members and urged countries concerned to take immediate steps in this direction.

Reportage on Kyrgyz President's Visit Continues

Kyrgyzstan To Introduce Currency

OW2004132093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1122 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 KYODO—Kyrgyzstan's President Askar Akaev said Tuesday the former Soviet republic will introduce its own currency as early as May to pull out of the rouble zone, making it the first Central Asian former Soviet state to do so. In talks with Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi, Akaev explained economic reforms taking place in his country and unveiled plans to privatize 35 percent of state enterprises by the end of this year, ministry officials said.

The Kyrgyz president also said he expects to sign a loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by next month because agreement has been reached on cutting the budget deficit as required by the IMF, the

officials said. Hayashi reaffirmed Japan's policy of providing yen loans to Kyrgyzstan once the International Development Association (IDA) makes a formal decision on providing some 60 million dollars in loans to the country, the officials said.

The IDA, a World Bank affiliate that specializes in soft loans, is scheduled to provide the loan on condition that a loan agreement is signed between Kyrgyzstan and the IMF. Akaev arrived in Tokyo Tuesday for a five-day state visit. He is slated to pay a courtesy call to Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and to meet Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno on Wednesday [21 April]. He will meet Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori on Thursday [22 April].

'Sources': Tokyo To Extend \$60 Million Loan

OW2104002793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0023 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—The government will extend a yen loan worth 60 million dollars to Kyrgyzstan as Japan's first Official Development Assistance (ODA) to former Soviet republics, government sources said Wednesday. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will explain the details of the loan to Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev when they meet Thursday, they said. Akayev arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday for a five-day visit to Japan.

The loan will be used to purchase equipment for industrial and agricultural infrastructure, the sources said. Japan will exchange notes on the aid with Kyrgyzstan after the Central Asian republic reaches agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on economic reform in May, they said. Japan plans to extend ODA to four other former Soviet republics in Central Asia when conditions are met, they said.

Russian Nuclear Dumping To Continue in Sea of Japan

OW1504232093 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1050 GMT 14 Apr 93

[From "News 7" program]

[Text] Two senior officers of Russia's Pacific Fleet who were directly involved in the dumping of radioactive waste into the Sea of Japan granted an exclusive interview to NHK. They stated that regarding the liquid waste, there is no other alternative than to continue the disposal for at least four more years. Meanwhile, regarding the solid waste, they disclosed that ocean dumping will be suspended immediately and that the waste will be disposed of at ground facilities instead. Moreover, regarding a survey of the possible contamination in the Sea of Japan, the Russian officers welcomed the idea of promoting a joint survey with Japanese experts. However, they stated that it would first be necessary to reach an accord at the governmental level.

Envoy: Tokyo Wants Election Monitors Near Troops

OW1704023793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0210 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 17 KYODO—Japan has asked the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to position Japanese election monitors close to Japanese police or engineering troops next month, Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia Yukio Imagawa said. He said he asked UNTAC head Yasushi Akashi to take the measures to secure the safety of 50 Japanese officials who will be dispatched to Cambodia in mid-May.

Imagawa said Friday night [16 April] in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE that Cambodia is getting closer to anarchy as the power of the Phnom Penh government's police has deteriorated. On safety measures for Japanese in Cambodia, Imagawa said he wants everyone to refrain from acting alone and think seriously about how to escape in case of an emergency. He stressed the necessity of holding the general election May 23-27, saying he hopes Japanese volunteers return to Cambodia and cooperate in the election.

Some volunteers went back to Japan temporarily after volunteer Atsushi Nakata was fatally gunned down by guerrilla attacks April 8. Imagawa also supported a UN plan to allow Japanese civilian police and Ground Self-Defense Force engineering troops to carry guns to defend themselves against possible guerrilla assaults. He said this would not compromise the restraints governing Japan's participation in Cambodia, as the police and troops are unlikely to kill opponents just because they are carrying guns.

Peacekeepers To Leave for Mozambique 11-15 May

OW2004132593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1128 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 KYODO—The dispatch of some 50 Self-Defense Forces troops to Mozambique to join a United Nations-led peacekeeping mission will be advanced to mid-May following a U.N. request, government sources said Tuesday. Defense Agency Director General Toshio Nakayama will order the chiefs of staff of the ground, maritime and air Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to put together the peacekeeping contingent after the adoption of the schedule at a Cabinet meeting slated for next Tuesday.

The contingent will be formed in a ceremony on May 10. An advance mission will leave for Mozambique aboard a chartered aircraft on May 11, while the main body of troops will follow May 15, the sources said. Originally the dispatch was scheduled for the end of May.

The troops will be carrying rifles and pistols for self-defense like their colleagues participating in peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, they said. They will

also take along satellite communication equipment and several four-wheel drive vehicles, the sources said.

The peacekeepers will engage in transport control operations in the capital of Maputo in southern Mozambique, the nearby town of Matora and a coastal city of Beira in the eastern part of the country. According to the sources, it has not yet been decided if staff for the U.N. mission's headquarters in Maputo will be seconded from the 50-member contingent or if they will be dispatched separately. The Mozambique contingent will be the second overseas dispatch of SDF troops since the law allowing cooperation in U.N. peacekeeping operations was enacted last summer.

Former Minister Nakayama To Attend Ozal Funeral

OW2004071793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0611 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 20 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will go to Istanbul to represent Japan at the funeral of Turkish President Turgut Ozal, who collapsed and died on Saturday, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday [20 April]. Officials said a state funeral was planned for Wednesday for Ozal, who died of heart failure at the age of 66. He had served as Turkey's president for the last three years and as the country's prime minister from 1983 to 1989.

Officials said Ozal contributed greatly to Japan-Turkey relations, having visited Japan some 20 times in various capacities. He last came as president in 1990 to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

Report: APEC 'Best Option' for Regional Integration

OW1904114393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1037 GMT 19 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Japan's best option in working toward regional economic integration is to strengthen the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, according to a report released Monday by the Foreign Ministry. The report on Japan's options was compiled by members of the ministry's Economic Affairs Bureau and a group of university scholars. It said the 15-nation APEC should become an "open economic association" which does not discriminate against countries outside the region as it strives to liberalize internal trade restrictions in line with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The report said it is not anticipated that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) or the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Free Trade Area would become protectionist trade blocs in the immediate future. But it stressed Japan should not be too passive in ensuring such an outcome does not occur.

The report examined various alternative trade bloc lineups, such as a Japan-U.S. free trade arrangement, a

U.S.-Taiwan-South Korea group, and an all-Asia economic caucus excluding the U.S. It said they would all be politically difficult to implement because of the tremendous adjustment costs that would be involved and the lopsided trade relations that would result.

The report said APEC was the best forum for ensuring continued high levels of economic growth in the Pacific Basin. APEC groups Australia, Brunei, China, Canada, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and the United States.

Okinawa Tightens Security Prior to Imperial Visit

OW2104075693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0750 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Naha, April 21 KYODO—Authorities are tightening security in Okinawa as Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko prepare to begin an historic four-day visit on Friday [23 April] to attend an annual tree-planting ceremony. Emperor Akihito is the first reigning emperor ever to visit Okinawa, the nation's southernmost prefecture. He has been to Okinawa as crown prince five times.

The emperor and empress are expected to visit the southern part of main island of Okinawa to meet families of those who died during World War II. The area was the site of fierce ground battles between the Japanese Imperial Army and U.S. Armed Forces during the war. Okinawa is the only part of Japan with a civilian population to experience a ground battle during World War II, in which about 200,000 people were killed.

On Sunday, the emperor and empress are scheduled to attend a tree-planting ceremony in Itoman, south of Naha, and visit various war memorials and monuments on the island. Police said they have mobilized 4,700 officers for security on the island. When Emperor Akihito visited the island as crown prince in 1975, a fire bomb was thrown at him.

Miyazawa Refuses Comment on Reform Proposals

OW2104064993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0624 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday refused to comment on a set of political reform proposals recently unveiled by a private council that would establish both single-seat and proportional representation systems for general elections. "I read the documents on it, but I decline comment because I haven't heard directly about it," Miyazawa told the House of Representatives special committee on political reform, in reply to a question from Yukio Hatoyama of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

The Committee for Promotion of Political Reform proposed last Saturday cutting the number of lower house seats from 512 to 500, with 300 legislators elected through the single-seat system and the remaining 200

through proportional representation. The proposals by the council, composed of industry, labor and media leaders, boded well for bridging the gulf between the LDP-proposed reform bills and a similar plan jointly submitted by the top two opposition parties, the Social Democratic Party [of Japan, SDPJ] (SDP) and Komeito.

Responding to an earlier question by the LDP's Hiroyuki Sonoda, Miyazawa said, "I hope (political reform) bills will definitely be acted upon during the current Diet session," but added, "I shouldn't talk about how our debate will finish because I'm not the one who proposed the bills." The 150-day ordinary session of the Diet is scheduled to close on June 20.

EPA Official Predicts Growth Near Government Target

OW1604122393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1154 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—A senior official of the Economic Planning Agency [EPA] said Friday [16 April] Japan will attain real economic growth "near the government's target" of 3.3 percent in fiscal 1993 even if personal consumption and capital investment level off. His comments to reporters contradict a forecast made by many private research agencies that growth of 3.3 percent is almost impossible even with the latest economic stimulus package unveiled Tuesday [12 April].

"Even only the public works spending in the package will jack up the gross national product by about a real 1.8 percent," the official said. The stimulus amount will be "substantial in scale when adding the measures delayed to the current fiscal year from the previous August package and the public works projects in the initial budget for the current fiscal year."

North Korea

Spokesman Expresses 'Interest' in Talks With U.S.

SK2104110193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 21 Apr 93

Pyongyang, April 21 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Wednesday answered a question of KCNA on the willingness to have a DPRK-U.S. high-level talks expressed by a spokesman of the U.S. State Department.

He said:

According to foreign press reports, the spokesman of the U.S. State Department recently expressed the willingness to have DPRK-U.S. high-level talks. If this is true, we show interest in this.

We hope that such position of the United States will not end in words but be carried into practice.

There is no change in our basic position to resolve the problem through negotiation.

If DPRK-U.S. talks is realized, matters of mutual concern including the nuclear problem will be discussed there.

U.S. Scholar: U.S.-DPRK Talks Should Be Held

SK2004132893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—Dr. Michael Mager in charge of international security of the U.S. Centre for Strategic and International Studies, speaking at a recent forum on the reunification of the Korean peninsula held at American University, said the United States should hold dialogue with North Korea for the reunification of the peninsula, according to radio Voice of America April 12.

He said the United States must hold dialogue with North Korea for the reunification of the Korean peninsula and discuss with South Korea the inspection of U.S. military bases in South Korea, the possibility of cessation of "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and other questions.

He added that the reason why the United States should support the reunification of the peninsula is that it can promote stability in Northeast Asia.

He said it will be better to solve the "nuclear friction" in question by diplomatic means than confrontation.

Group Signs Cooperation Agreement With Syria

SK2004135793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—An agreement on cooperation between the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of the DPRK and the National Progressive Front of the Syrian Arab Republic was signed at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Pak Song-chol, vice-president of the DPRK and presidium member of the DFRF Central Committee, Yu Ho-chun, director of the secretariat of the C.C., DFRF, and other officials concerned and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic [SAR] led by Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice-president of the SAR and vice-chairman of the National Progressive Front, and Syrian ambassador to Korea Yasir Farah.

The agreement was signed by Pak Song-chol and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah.

Generals Attend Iranian Military Attache's Party*SK2004084293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444
GMT 20 Apr 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—Military Attache of the Iranian Embassy in Korea Paviz Dehghan Par-chini gave a party at Ognyu restaurant Monday on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the army day of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Invited to the party were Vice-marshal of the Korean People's Army Kim Kwang-chin, generals, officers and Military Attaches of embassies in Korea.

Iranian Ambassador Hasan Taherian and embassy officials were present there.

Speeches were exchanged at the party.

Sihanouk Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il*SK2004135293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050
GMT 20 Apr 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean Peoples Army, received a gift from His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

The gift was handed to an official concerned today.

Kim Il-song Receives Messages From Foreign Leaders*SK2004053693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421
GMT 20 Apr 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings from heads of state of many countries on the occasion of his birthday.

The messages came from Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and president of the Republic of Mozambique; Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September First Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah; Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan; Alpha Oumar Konare, president of the Republic and head of state of Mali; France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; Pierre Buyoya, president of the Republic of Burundi; Ibrahim B. Babangida, president and commander-in-chief of Armed

Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and Hassan the second, king of Morocco.

In the messages they extended warm congratulations to President Kim Il-song on his birthday and expressed the belief that the bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between Korea and their countries would grow stronger and develop.

They wished President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Koreans in China Send Letter to Kim Chong-il*SK2004132993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025
GMT 20 Apr 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—A letter came to the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il from the headquarters of Koreans in China of the National Alliance for the Countrys Reunification (Pomminnyon) congratulating him upon his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

The letter says the election of Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission is a reflection of the unshakable will of the entire Korean people and a great political event guaranteeing victory of the chuche cause of the Korean people.

"We will never waver, however grim the situation may be, and advance along the road of loyalty, holding you Comrade Kim Chong-il, the successor to the chuche cause of army building, in high esteem at the head of the revolution for ever," notes the letter.

It evinces their determination to devote their body and soul to the sacred struggle for national reunification.

It wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

KCNA Notes Progress in Technology Movement*SK2104063993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412
GMT 21 Apr 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—The "Scientific and Technical March of Youth" is going on briskly in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In the first two months or more of this year, a hundred and several dozen inventions of economic value were put forward and over 1,000 effective technical innovation proposals introduced into production.

The "Scientific and Technical March of Youth" is a mass movement of young people aimed at developing the nation's science and technology by accelerating the technical revolution.

This movement which began in 1989 encourages young people to acquire more than one kind of science and technology, upgrade their degree of technology and skill,

present more than one invention or contrivance or rationalization proposal and put them into production every year.

By energetically waging the movement, young people have made more than 6,700 inventions and put forward over 60,000 technical innovation proposals to greatly contribute to the *chuche*-orientation, modernization and scientization of the national economy.

The Youth Technical Innovation Shock Brigade and the Youth Automation Shock Brigade hold an important place in this movement.

More than 2,600 youth technical innovation shock brigades and 760 youth automation shock brigades are now active throughout the country, each category involving tens of thousands of youths.

In the last four years or more, they introduced over 2,800 inventions and 28,500 technical innovation proposals to further modernise production and technical processes.

As a result, they saved 21 million man-day's labor and 186 million won and large quantities of raw material, fuel, power and material to largely benefit the state.

In this course, many engineers, assistant engineers and experts have been trained and able inventors and master-hands in contrivance produced and the degree of technology and skill of the working people has been upgraded remarkably.

Nearly 60 units were awarded the title of the "Youth Scientific and Technical Vanguard."

Yi Mong-ho Speaks at Parliamentary Meeting in India

SK2004082993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 20 (KCNA)—Yi Mong-ho, secretary of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, made a speech on April 16 at the 89th inter-parliamentary conference in India at which he was present at the head of the DPRK parliamentary group delegation.

He gave a detailed account of the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for Reunification of the country published by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the 5th session of the 9th Supreme People's Assembly.

"What we want is reunification for national independence, not for dependence on others," Yi Mong-ho said. "The principle of national independence is an inviolable main principle of national reunification."

"It is an intolerable mockery of the nation for the South Korean authorities to talk about dialogue and reunification while refusing this principle," he stated.

"By resuming nuclear war exercises and conducting a campaign for 'special inspection' with outcries over the fictitious 'nuclear weapons' of the DPRK, the United States and the South Korean authorities show they want neither detente nor dialogue and reunification on the Korean peninsula but seek the strategic purpose of stifling the DPRK," he said.

"The DPRK's withdrawal from the Nonproliferation Treaty was caused by the U.S. hostile policy toward Korea and U.S. nuclear threat, its product. So our 'nuclear problem' is a problem between the DPRK and the United States," he said. "This problem should, therefore, be settled through negotiation between the DPRK and the United States, which does not need interference of the International Atomic Energy Agency or any country or any person."

Premier Speaks at Kim Il-song Birthday Meeting

SK1704010493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0704 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Speech by Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, at a central report meeting marking DPRK President Kim Il-song's birthday held in 8 February Hall of Culture in Pyongyang on 14 April—live]

[Text] [Applause] Comrades, today our people are significantly commemorating the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's birthday by cherishing its great national pride in firmly defending, protecting and glorifying popular mass-centered socialism of our own style in single-hearted unity with the party and the leader by highly upholding the revolutionary banner of the *chuche* idea. [applause]

Marking this significant day, the entire nation overflows with endless joy and deep emotion, and is filled with the sense of boundless admiration of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The birth of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was a magnificent good fortune which illuminated the darkness-ridden nation and moved it toward liberation and resuscitation. It was a great congratulatory event which effected a basic turning point in our people's shaping its destiny. [applause]

The entire course of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary activities has been brilliantly embroidered with annals of gigantic struggle and of creation during which he dedicated everything to the nation's liberation and prosperity and to the people's freedom and happiness.

Under the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's leadership, our people traversed the victorious road of heroic and epic struggle by breaking through various trials and difficulties. Even amid a grave situation in which the imperialists and reactionaries are more viciously waging anti-socialist and anti-Republic maneuvers more than ever before, our people are making a long drive without

wavering by taking advantage of victory and by demonstrating invincibility of the *chuche* socialist cause.

It is our people's great honor and happiness to significantly commemorate the respected leader's birthday as a common great congratulatory event of mankind amid boundless blessings by fighting brothers in the South, all compatriots overseas and revolutionary people of the world. [applause]

Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, pioneered our revolution after embarking on the road of national liberation at an early date by shouldering the destiny of the fatherland. He constantly led our people's cause of independence—the socialist cause—along the single road of victory with uncommon wisdom and outstanding leadership. He made immortal achievements in the progress of mankind and in the development of world revolution. At this significant occasion to mark the revolutionary April holiday, the greatest national holiday, I extend the greatest honor and warmest congratulations to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song together with ardent admiration and unanimous loyalty of all party members and people. [applause]

Comrades, nearly 70 years have passed since the Korean revolution began and nearly half a century has passed since we entered the road of building a new fatherland after the national liberation. The greatest national fortune that our people have in this long course is the fact that we are upholding the great leader at the van of the revolution. [applause]

As was illustrated by the entire historic course of accomplishing the socialist cause—the cause of popular masses for independence—the greatest fortune for the people who are carrying out the revolution is to uphold the wise leader [hyonmyonghan suryong].

The people, who are upholding the wise leader, can achieve endless prosperity of the nation, not knowing even to the slightest degree the frustration amid any whirlpool of history, and can freely enjoy the independent and creative life as the masters of society and the state.

Only when the popular masses come under the leadership of the wise leader, can they brilliantly shape their destiny. This has been clearly proven by our history of national ruin and ordeal and by the brilliant reality in which our nation is flourishing and developing.

Our people upheld the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the great leader—for the first time in a national history of several thousand years and came under the wise leadership of the leader. As a result, we could emerge as a glorious people who are in charge of the *chuche* revolutionary cause. We could free ourselves from being the most miserable sufferers of a history of affliction. Our people became the great people who are pioneering the victorious road of socialism—the valuable revolutionary road. [applause]

The modern history of our nation, which has been embroidered with a heroic struggle and immortal achievements, and the pioneering and victory of the Korean revolution clearly proved that the greatness of a people is not in the size of territories and in the number of people but in what leader they uphold.

Our people's greatness has been inherited and glorified over generations because the leadership of the great leader has been firmly inherited generation after generation. [applause]

Over a long period of time from the 1920's, when the revolutionary struggle of the popular masses aspiring to independence began broadly on a worldwide scale and in a diversified manner, to the 1990's, the respected Comrade Kim Il-song consistently and victoriously led at the van our people's struggle to achieve national independence and to build a new society. He is a matchless national hero who made immortal achievements in the socialist cause—mankind's anti-imperialist cause for independence—and is the great leader of the revolution. [applause]

The revolutionary history of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is illuminating the course for the most gigantic, glorious and brilliant revolutionary activities, which are unprecedented in world history in terms of greatness of leadership in victoriously overcoming arduous struggle. The activities are unprecedented in the richness of achievements in history and the influence over time and history. [applause]

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the great thinker and theoretician who provided the popular masses with the most precise guiding ideology of our era—the era of independence—and gave them invincible weapons with which they could brilliantly shape their destiny. [applause]

The people's destiny can be pioneered only through (?practice) of the correct ideology. The socialist society can be successfully built only when it has a correct guiding ideology.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song created the immortal everlasting *chuche* idea and thus provided the popular masses with the most correct guiding ideology for freedom, emancipation and society. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song placed the popular masses in the center of all thoughts and practice for the first time in history and expounded the principle of revolution. He comprehensively advanced theories on socialism.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with deep appreciation of the fact that truth does not rest with proposing existing theory but with the optional independent aspiration and the practice of revolutionary struggle, solved all problems in an original manner starting from the desire of our people and the specific reality of our country.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song knew that the most ardent wish of the popular masses was to live independently free from the bonds and subjugation of society and nature, placed the popular masses in the position of being the masters of the world and the masters of their destiny. Aware that the popular masses have the inexhaustible might capable of remaking the world and pioneering their destiny for themselves, he placed the popular masses in the position of being the remaker of the world and the pioneers of their destiny. By so doing, he established the viewpoint and position that everything should serve the popular masses—the masters of the world and the masters of their destiny—and that all problems should be solved by the creative might and wisdom of the popular masses—the remarkers of the world and the pioneers of their destiny.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song elucidated the theories, strategy, and tactics in all stages and fields of the revolution for the realization of independence based on the *chuche* idea, and summed up the leadership method to lead the cause of the independence of the popular masses to victory, thereby developing the revolutionary ideology of the working class onto a new higher plane. The revolutionary ideology of Comrade Kim Il-song, which starts from and embodies the principles of the immortal *chuche* idea, has been the noble result of the profound, original, versatile, and encyclopedic ideological and theoretical activities of the leader over nearly 70 years. The ideological and theoretical achievement of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song of founding the *chuche* idea is the most brilliant of all his achievements before the times and the revolution. [applause]

Our party and people are vigorously advancing along the road of socialism unperturbed in today's complicated situation because they have the great *chuche* idea. The *chuche* idea, which began to burn as a light shining over the nation at the dawn of the Korean revolution, is the most superior scientific socialist theory whose justness and viability has been tested through the practice of the protracted revolutionary struggle. It is the source of the invincibility of the socialism of our country and the encouraging banner of the world's revolutionary people who love justice and truth and aspire for independence. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great statesman and a genius of creation and construction who pushed his way through the unfamiliar untrodden road and has led the exceptionally arduous and complicated Korean revolution to a single road of victory with the unequalled farseeing wisdom, scientific insight, iron-willed volition, and outstanding leadership. [applause]

The anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song organized and led was a glorious revolutionary struggle that developed our people's anti-Japanese national liberation struggle and the Korean communist movement onto a new higher plane under the banner of the *chuche* idea. It realized the cause

of the fatherland liberation, and created our party's brilliant revolutionary tradition.

A young general in his twenties and a legendary hero without parallel in the history of mankind, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song victoriously led the overall Korean revolution, of which a great part was the armed struggle. He stood at the head of it in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle era with absolute trust and boundless adoration of the entire nation toward him. By so doing, he restored the lost fatherland for our people, opening a new victorious chapter that will remain immortal in the history of the national liberation struggle of the oppressed colonialists. [applause]

By breaking through a long rugged road covered by a snowstorm and a distant path of bloody struggle during the days of anti-Japanese struggle, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song provided the *chuche* lineage of the Korean revolution while passing many nights in open, stormy fields. As a result, our people came to have the honor as the people who purely inherited the pulse [*maekbak*] of the revolution and who brilliantly acceded to the *chuche* revolutionary cause which began at the sacred Paektu peak.

During the entire course of leading the revolution and construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song always put forward the establishment of *chuche* as the essential issue deciding the nation's destiny and success of the revolution. He firmly maintained the principle of resolving all problems in our own way based on our own faith and strength in compliance with the actual situation in our country.

We resolved all problems raised in the revolution and construction independently and creatively based on the *chuche* position. Herein lies the secret of all our victories, and matchless greatness and uncommon nature of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary leadership. [applause]

In the early days of the revolution, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song elucidated a precious truth that the basic issue in the struggle of the popular masses for independence is, above all, to bring about powerful driving forces of the revolution by raising consciousness of the popular masses—the driving force in the struggle—and by properly organizing them. He wisely led the work of strengthening the driving forces of our revolution by personally overcoming numerous trials and critical difficulties.

By giving full play to the *chuche* idea, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song built *chuche*-based political organizations and revolutionary armed forces to take care of and to firmly defend the destiny of the popular masses by bearing the full responsibility to the end. He fostered our people to be revolutionary people with a strong spirit of independence. He provided a firm guarantee for the victorious advance of our revolution.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song founded the Workers Party of Korea [WPK]—a new *chuche*-type political party—and strengthened and developed it to an iron-clad party. This is a historic achievement in providing an invincible guarantee for firmly consolidating the driving force of our revolution and for attaining the final victory of socialist and communist cause in our country. [applause]

Immediately after national liberation, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song completed the work of founding and building our party which he persistently advanced from the days of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. He strengthened and developed our party into a mass political party composed of vanguard elements of workers, peasants and intellectuals. As a result, our people could have a refined leading political organization and could victoriously advance the revolution and construction in firm unity with the party.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a unique idea for party building that the party of the working class should become a leading political organization of society which represents and firmly defends the interests of a broad range of the popular masses. He not only brilliantly implemented this idea but also expounded the line of building a popular *chuche*-type government and of building the army. He made the state and government of the working class and revolutionary armed forces thoroughly serve the people and become a mighty weapon to defend freedom and the happiness of the people.

Our people magnificently appeared on the international stage by highly flying the brilliant flag of the DPRK and won the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with regular revolutionary armed forces, which took over the Korean People's Revolutionary Army after the liberation, against the U.S. imperialists' armed aggression. Our people are demonstrating the honor of heroic Koreans. All this is a great fruition of the *chuche*-based line for government building and army building advanced by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the founder of our Republic and ever-victorious iron-willed sagacious commander. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a *chuche*-based principle that in order for one to brilliantly shape the people's destiny, one should firmly prepare the popular masses politically and ideologically and should make them firmly rally behind the party. Proceeding from this principle, he made every effort to arm our people with independent revolutionary consciousness and to foster them to be indomitable militant ranks which are firmly united with the party. Thus, he made immortal achievements in consolidating the driving force of our revolution into a social and political organ which cannot be broken by anything. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has emphasized the work of arming people with independent revolutionary consciousness in the entire course of his leadership in the revolution and construction. As a result, our

people have become not only the bright people who can shape their own destiny with their own efforts, but also the great people who can display the dignity and honor of the nation in their own right. [applause]

Our people have become a revolutionary and independent people. They are unprecedented in the world. This is because they firmly rally around the party with a high independent spirit under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The source of the popular masses' might lies in unity, and the most solid unity is the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party, and the masses.

The ideological and mental source of the most solid singlehearted unity of the Korean Communists and our people who have been fostered and tempered under the care of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is precisely the firm determination and strong will to carry out the revolution, trusting their leader and their party and rallying around them. In fostering our people into a people with a strong spirit of independence, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has wisely led the party so that it can properly carry out the work of establishing its organizational and ideological foundation and leadership system which will take care of the destiny of the people to the end even in the distant future.

The revolutionary cause to achieve the popular masses' independence continues generation after generation. To achieve the final completion of this historic cause, it is imperative to smoothly solve the issue of inheriting the leadership in conformity with the demands of the developing revolution. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's most brilliant foresight is that, with his deep insight into the historic inevitability of the inheritance of the revolutionary cause, he has completely prepared it in conformity with the demands of our revolution and with the desire of our people and led the party to firmly establish its organizational and ideological foundation and leadership system under which the *chuche* revolutionary cause can be brilliantly inherited and consummated generation after generation. [applause]

In our country today, the invincible Workers Party of Korea [WPK] firmly stands at the center of the ranks of the revolution, and the popular masses, who have surmounted all sorts of trials, sharing the destiny with the party in the course of the protracted revolutionary struggle, are unstintedly demonstrating their creative might in the revolution and construction, firmly uniting as one around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and faithfully upholding the great leader's lofty intent. [applause]

All the party, all the army, and all the people are firmly rallied around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as one ideological will on the basis of revolutionary obligation and lofty comradely love and, thus, have formed the strong main force which will brilliantly inherit and consummate the *chuche* revolutionary cause generation after generation. This is precisely the most noble and

brilliant immortal achievement which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has registered for the party, the revolution, and our people by devoting his whole life and it will shine forever. [applause]

The words, the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party, and the masses, are the words which can be used only in our country today, and this singlehearted unity has entered a stage of full bloom thanks to the rewarding struggle for modeling the whole society after the *chuche* idea under the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. [applause]

Our people's single-hearted unity around the great leader and great party is the source of might and invincibility of our country's socialist system. It is the basic factor that enables our socialism to advance victoriously, unflinching under any stormy circumstances. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has brilliantly implemented the two-staged social revolution in our country. He has fulfilled a worldwide achievement of building *chuche*-based socialism, in which independence, self-reliance, and self-defence have firmly been realized, in this land by vigorously accelerating the socialist construction. [applause]

Socialism of our own style deeply rooted in our country receives all the people's absolute support and consent. It is our revolution's greatest gain that the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has achieved through a life-long, arduous struggle and is the cradle of our people's lives and happiness. [applause]

While building socialism, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song considered it basic policy that the party and the state be responsible for solving all of the people's livelihood problems from food, clothing, and daily consumption, which are the most essential in people's lives, to education and medical treatment problems. By doing so, he has enabled our people to enjoy their independent and creative lives without worry.

Today, all the people in our country are equally enjoying the most valuable and happiest lives in all fields—political, economic, and cultural—as genuine masters of the state and society.

Socialism, which guarantees that all the people can enjoy independent and creative lives in an equal material and cultural living standard without exploitation and pressure, is what mankind has dreamed of for centuries and many revolutionary martyrs aspired for in bloody struggles. This socialism has been brilliantly realized in our country. Our country's socialism is vigorously displaying its unique charms and unlimited vitality.

In our country, socialism became our people's firm faith and perfect living doctrine and became inseparably related to our destiny. The destiny of socialism is the destinies of our people and that of our fatherland. [applause]

The *chuche*-based socialism, to which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has devoted his whole life, and on which all the people entrust with their destinies and their future, is constantly being developed to a new and higher level. It is remodeling the entire society after the *chuche* idea under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, dear leader of our people and party and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army. [applause]

Filled with hope and faith, all the people are enjoying the most valuable political existence that an independent human being can enjoy, sound and abundant cultural lives, and equal and happy material lives, united in a large revolutionary family under the collectivist principle of "One for all, and all for one." They are vigorously advancing with the prospect for a prosperous future of the fatherland the revolution in the true people-oriented society, which has brilliantly embodied the *chuche* doctrine. This is a true look of *chuche* Korea, which is advancing perfectly along the road of socialism under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and our party. [applause]

Our country's socialism today, as the invincible fortress which cannot be destroyed by any desparate schemes of the imperialists and reactionaries, is achieving constant development. Under the wise leadership of the party and the leader our people have firm faith in the correctness and invincibility of the *chuche*-oriented socialist cause, which they have chosen and pioneered with their own strength. They are also filled with the burning determination to struggle for its final victory to the end. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the great father of the people who has the lofty benevolent virtue of infinitely loving the people. [applause]

The saying that a politician should have high humanity and a country should be governed by humanity has been passed on since ancient times. The exploiting society, however, is not a society governed by humanity, and the ruler of the exploiting society is not a man who is humane. Genuine politics of humanity can be realized only in a socialist society where the people are the masters of the country. Even in the socialist society, genuine politics of humanity can be realized only when the people hold in high esteem their leader [*suryong*] who infinitely loves them.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has mastered the love toward the people at the highest plane and recorded the most brilliant history of devoting to the people in the entire course of his revolutionary activities. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who has led his whole life together with the people, defining as a lesson of history the truth that when one trusts the people and relies on them, one can attain the universe and that when one stays away from the people and is rejected by them, one is destined to suffer defeat—has rendered the most

outstanding politics of humanity to the people, sharing hardship, joy, sorrow, and pleasure with them. [applause]

The ideology of respecting and loving the people is the great ideological source of the politics of humanity that the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has consistently embodied as his motto. With this lofty ideology the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has brilliantly pioneered the victorious road of the revolution together with the people on the road of his arduous struggle which was full of ups and downs.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said that it is precisely our people who give him courage, faith, and encouragement during every difficult period of the revolution and that it is also our people who give him wisdom and methods so that he can lead the revolution and construction to a correct road. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has given on-the-spot guidance on numerous occasions, and over the course of these guidances, he has rendered the politics of greatest love to the people. [applause]

All of the people-oriented policies in our country today are the noble fruition of the genuine politics of humanity which is stemmed from the great leader's lofty love toward the people. [applause]

The lofty benevolent virtue of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song warmly finds expression in his infinite love toward all of our revolutionary fighters. Thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's lofty comradely love toward our revolutionary fighters, our several millions of party ranks have been fostered, our matchless revolutionary armed forces have been built, and all of society has become a great peaceful and harmonious family firmly united on the basis of comradely love and revolutionary obligation. [applause]

The respected and beloved leader's great bosom of love for the people is a boundlessly broad fatherly bosom which warmly embraces all the people without discrimination. Thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's bosom of love as broad as an ocean, an amazing development is being witnessed today in which those who once engaged in anticommunism, turning away from the country and the nation, now devote themselves to the patriotic and nation-loving work. They have transformed themselves to live a true life. [applause]

Whether they are in the North, in the South, or abroad, and irrespective of what ideology, political view, faction, religion, and history of political life they have had, all the fellow countrymen are committing themselves to the sacred cause of reunification, looking up to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the great father of the nation. This is because the leader's bosom is so warm and broad. Because our people have the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who has the most sublime virtue, as their father, they entrust all their destiny and future to the leader and enjoy rewarding and happy lives in the bosom of the leader. The leader has the people in

mind, and the people truly trust the leader from the bottom of their hearts and uphold him with utmost loyalty and filial duty. This is the great ethos of our society and the great pride of our chuche fatherland today. [applause]

Truly, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who has made immortal achievements in the cause of independence and the cause of socialism of the popular masses for the protracted period of time since he initiated the Korean revolution under the banner of the chuche idea up to this day with his outstanding ideology, extraordinary leadership, and noble virtue—is the great lodestar of the struggle for the complete liberation and eternal happiness of mankind. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—who has waged a sleepless and ceaseless struggle during his entire life for the country and the nation and for the revolution—is wisely leading the entire party membership, the entire country, and all the people today to the historic march for the victory of the socialist cause and the independent reunification of the country at the head of the revolution with his vigorous energy and extraordinary revolutionary driving force. [applause]

The achievements made by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in leading our people's revolutionary struggle and construction work to invariable victory are the noblest revolutionary wealth which will remain an immortal significance in the revolutionary cause of the working class and the popular masses for independence. These achievements of his will shine forever with the forward movement of history, and the revolutionary cause of our party and people following the leadership of the great Comrade Kim Il-song will always be victorious. [applause]

Comrades: Our revolution—which has advanced victoriously under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, overcoming the manifold difficulties and trials—is in an important historical phase today, and an honorable, as well as heavy, revolutionary task has been assigned to our party and people. We should defend and adhere to the socialist cause from the frenzied antisocialist, anti-Republic maneuvers—which the imperialists and the reactionaries are perpetrating the taking advantage of grave times in which socialism has been frustrated in many countries and has been replaced by capitalism—and develop it further. This is the noble and responsible obligation of our party and people for the times and mankind. To carry out this just obligation successfully, we should uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the genius of the revolution—even better and continue the revolution along the road pioneered by the leader. [applause]

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: We should uphold the leader with loyalty and filial dutifulness forever cherishing deep in our hearts the infinite honor and happiness of upholding the great leader.

Upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the consistent yearning of our people and of progressive mankind. The world's revolutionary people now look up to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as an outstanding leader who victoriously leads the cause of independence of mankind and the socialist cause, expressing their inexhaustible trust and respect for the respected and beloved leader. [applause]

We should cherish the infinite honor of the Korean people of upholding the great leader whom the world reveres and the noble revolutionary sense of mission and uphold even better the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song with infinite loyalty and filial dutifulness, and continue a vigorous struggle along the single road of the chuche revolution pioneered by the leader. [applause]

This year is a significant year when we will observe the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War in which our people defeated the armed invasion of the U.S. imperialists, which boasted of their being the strongest in the world, honorably defending the freedom and independence of the fatherland and demonstrating the heroic spirit of the chuche Korea to the entire world.

The United States approved [chaega] the Team Spirit joint military exercise—the test nuclear war exercise against us—and instigated some circles of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] so that the IAEA was forced to adopt the unjust resolution on referring our fictitious nuclear issue to the United Nations and is continuously and viciously maneuvering to isolate and obliterate [malssal] our republic—the fortress of socialism—by means of so-called collective sanctions on us. However, no matter what military threat, pressure, or offensive the enemies may employ, they will not be able to frighten our people—who have victoriously pioneered the arduous road of the revolution overcoming all sorts of difficulties and trials with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at their head and under the party's leadership. Nor will they be able to block our advance. [applause]

Some time ago, dark clouds of nuclear war made their way to our country because of the U.S. imperialists' reckless maneuvers, creating a touch-and-go situation in which a war could break out at any time. In response, our party and the government of the Republic declared a semi-war state and resolutely declared the decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. This was the most just step reflecting our people's firm will to protect and adhere to the independence and sovereignty of the country and the socialism of our country to the end. [applause]

At the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly—which was held at a time when we crushed [chitpusigo] with a resolute self-defensive step the aggression and interference maneuvers of the imperialist reactionary forces which attempted to infringe upon our

socialist cause, highly demonstrating the dignity and dignified appearance of the entire Korea once again—the 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for national reunification, which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song himself had written, was adopted. This was an important political event which gave the Korean nation a new hope for fatherland reunification and created great repercussions in the world once again. [applause]

The 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was a great charter of national unity which enables the entire nation to overcome today's grave difficulties with great unity and to open a phase of a turning point for peace and reunification, and a patriotic and nation-loving banner which enables our nation to pioneer its destiny on its own. [applause]

We should cherish a great pride in being the victors who honorably safeguarded the nation and revolutionary gains from arrogant and reckless maneuvers of aggression and interference by the imperialists and reactionaries, and who are demonstrating the nation's wisdom and dignified appearance. We should firmly adhere to our party's chuche-based revolutionary principle and general line for socialist construction, whose justness and vitality have been clearly proved amid trials of history. We should further accelerate the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—in all domains with such an indomitable revolutionary spirit as displayed by the heroic Korean people during the great Fatherland Liberation War.

The basic key to victory in the struggle to firmly defend, protect, and accomplish the chuche socialist cause and to expedite national reunification is to further strengthen the single-hearted unity of the whole party and entire society with the leader [suryong] as the center.

“Let us carry on to accomplishment the socialist cause in single-hearted unity of the whole party, all people and the entire Army!” This is the very revolutionary slogan which we should highly uphold today.

Our single-hearted unity is the ideological and conscious unity based on one center and one ideology and is the organizational unity of people who move as one under the party's monolithic leadership.

The single-hearted unity constitutes the core of our party's revolutionary tradition. It is an essence in inheriting the chuche revolutionary cause to maintain, strengthen, and develop such unity generation after generation.

All party members and workers should cherish a great national pride and dignity in carrying out the revolution by invariably upholding Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader, at our van throughout a long period of time from the time of our revolution's exploration to the present. They should assume loyalty to the leader as their firm

faith, conscience, and moral obligation, and should highly display such loyalty throughout all moments of their lives.

All party members and workers should firmly arm themselves with the *chuche* idea—our party's revolutionary ideology—and should glorify over generations the revolutionary achievements made by the great leader by resolutely repelling the enemy's various disturbances of socialism. Thus, we should more firmly consolidate the unity and cohesion of our revolutionary ranks with the party and the leader as the center.

Today the *chuche* revolutionary cause—our party's cause—is being brilliantly inherited and developed by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who has thoroughly personified [*chehyonhada*] traits and temperament as the popular leader [*inminchok yongdoja*]. It is the firm faith and will of our people to accomplish the Korean revolution to the end by continuing the sacred Paektu march and by upholding the party's leadership. [applause]

Reflecting the unanimous intentions and desire of all people across the country, the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly elected Comrade Kim Chong-il, dear leader of our party and people and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission. This is an expression of unswerving faith and firm will of our people to carry on to accomplish the *chuche* revolutionary cause by upholding the sagacious comrade leader in the supreme position [*choegosuwi*] of our revolutionary Armed Forces and by following the party's leadership. This demonstrates absolute trust in and sense of endless loyalty to him by all people and officers and men of the People's Army. [applause]

Highly upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission is a matter of great national congratulations and another historic event for our people and officers and men of the People's Army to brilliantly accomplish the *chuche* revolutionary cause pioneered by the great leader, under the tested leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is outstanding military genius and ever-victorious predominant military strategist, to strengthen and develop our revolutionary Armed Forces, and to win victory for the socialist cause. [applause]

All party members and workers should cherish firm will and belief that as long as the great leader [*suryong*] and the great leader [*yongdoja*] are standing at the van, our revolution will win victory without fail. Just as the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters won victory in the fight by upholding the respected leader as the center of unity and of leadership, all party members and workers should become permanent companions and loyal revolutionary fighters who share the destiny with the party over generations by upholding the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

We should think and act only in accordance with the party's idea and will at all times and all places; should tenaciously defend and protect the party and the leader politically and ideologically with our lives; should become ardent supporters and thoroughgoing performers of the party's policy according to the slogan of loyalty, "What the party decides, we will do!" and should fully demonstrate the sense of matchless devotion and mass heroism to further glorify the popular-mass centered socialism of our own style.

All party members and workers, upholding the militant tasks put forward by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the New Year address and the party's appeal, should effect a new great revolutionary upsurge on all fronts in socialist construction with such unswerving fighting spirit and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle as displayed during the days of arduous war. Thus, they should brilliantly decorate this year—the 40th anniversary of victory of the great fatherland liberation war—to be the year of rewarding struggle and glorious victory. [applause]

According to gigantic plans set forth by the party, all domains and units in the national economy should effect a greater turning point in economic construction with such a fighting spirit as displayed during the state of semi-war. They should vigorously accelerate the all-people general march to further upgrade the people's living standard.

Because of the invincible might of our people, who are firmly rallied behind the party and the leader, and of the People's Army, the U.S. imperialists' attempt to invade us suffered a serious blow. However, the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries to invade and stifle [*apsal*] our Republic have been further strengthened. Because of this, the situation in our country is being strained and the danger of war is increasing.

The prevailing situation illustrates that only when we firmly maintain the principle of national independence by upholding the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, can we repel aggression and intervention of outside forces and expedite the cause of national reunification with great unity of the nation.

If the South Korean authorities truly want to clearly draw a line of demarcation from their successive military fascist regimes and to seek the national unity by aspiring to national independence, they should abandon the policy of relying on outside forces; should express their will for withdrawal of U.S. troops; should suspend forever the joint military exercise with foreign troops, and should make a bold decision to get out of the U.S. nuclear umbrella.

All party members and workers in the northern half of the Republic should keenly watch the maneuvers of aggression by the imperialist reactionary forces, including the United States, with lofty revolutionary

vigilance to cope with the grave situation in our country where the danger of war is increasing with each passing day. We should firmly and continually maintain the state of militant alertness in order to smash the enemy's provocative maneuvers timely.

All party members and workers should love the People's Army soldiers like their own offspring by upholding our party's idea for military-civilian unity and should sincerely look after them. Thus, they should share joy and sorrows with the soldiers on the road of struggle to defend the socialist fatherland in firm military-civilian unity.

Keenly realizing the party's slogan, "We serve the people!" all functionaries should deeply mingle with the masses and should further inspire their revolutionary zeal and creativeness. Thus, they should fulfill the responsibility and role as loyal servants of the people.

Only victory is ahead of our people who are staunchly fighting to defend the red banner of socialism to the end with conviction in sure victory and firm will under the wise leadership of the party and the leader. [applause]

Upholding the banner of the *chuche* idea and of the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—let us all vigorously advance toward a new victory of the revolution in firm unity with the party Central Committee headed by the respected Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

Together with all people's ardent loyalty to and a sense of endless admiration of the respected leader, I respectfully wish Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, good health and long life, for national reunification, for the nation's everlasting prosperity and for accomplishment of the *chuche* revolutionary cause. [applause] [shouting of hurrahs]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people! [applause] [shouting of hurrahs]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer and guide of all victories of the Korean people! [applause] [shouting of hurrahs]

Daily Stresses Need To Uphold Kim Il-song

SK1504134193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0035 GMT 12 Apr 93

[NODONG SINMUN 12 April special article: "The Firm Faith of Our People To Uphold the Respected and Beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as the Eternal Hanbyol [lodestar]"]

[Text] Our people are the most revolutionary people who held their great leader [yongdoja] in high esteem forever and highly upheld him with loyalty, filial piety, and single-hearted unity, generation after generation. Our people's great pride and honor is that from the start of

pioneering the revolutionary cause, they highly upheld only the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and created a brilliant history of loyalty.

As was the case of the youth communists during the dawning of our revolution, our party members and workers today are holding the respected and beloved leader in high esteem as the eternal hanbyol. They are also overflowing with the iron-willed determination and will to uphold him generation after generation.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has pointed out: In the words of the song 'Song of Comradely Love' there is a phrase saying—We are looking up to hanbyol with our pledge to remain unchanged on the road of revolution, no matter what happens. Therefore, our leader [suryong] is the eternal hanbyol and the great sun of mankind.

Currently our people are highly praising their leader [suryong] as the eternal hanbyol. This is a manifestation of absolute admiration, respect, and endless affection toward the leader. They are filled with the iron-willed intention of a revolutionary fighter to firmly have faith in and follow only the great leader in whatever twists and turns. Moreover, today's generation as well as the future generations are filled with the whole nation's consistent desire to advance along the one road of victory, as taught by the leader.

There is no greater desire by the people of our generation than endlessly upholding the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song under the esteemed name of the eternal hanbyol and sun.

The most lofty revolutionary trait which a people can possess is the noble spirit of deeply respecting and invariably following their leader. If his warm loyalty is to be a true one, it should be an everlasting and invariable one that does not change generation after generation.

The succession of the revolution is the succession of loyalty. Revolution is completed when the next generations go through the process of firmly succeeding the banner of faith and will which was highly upheld by the preceding generations. The oath and determination of a revolutionary should never change no matter what happens, and the tradition of loyalty should be succeeded with integrity.

Eternal loyalty becomes all the more heated along the revolutionary road which is succeeded generation after generation. This is true loyalty which the people carrying out the revolution should possess. What is most important for the revolutionaries and people in always upholding the party and the leader is to maintain the lofty attitude and stand which they took in holding their leader in high esteem during the pioneering period of the revolution.

The pioneering period of the revolution is the most glorious period in which the leader is highly upheld amid the demand of the times and the people's earnest desire. The revolutionaries are endlessly happy and full of glory when they received for the first time the great leader, who leads the fatherland, revolution, and the people's fate. Therefore, the first generation of the revolution is a generation which possesses the most thorough view of the leader. Also, their faith becomes an ideological and spiritual asset which the people should preciousely treasure and succeed eternally.

Even today when the third and fourth generations of the revolution have grown up, our people are deeply bearing in their mind the lofty spirit of the revolutionaries of the first generation who revered and followed the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the great hanbyol.

During the days when our revolution was dawning, the nation's fate was at stake and the future of the struggle road was gloomy. During such difficult period, which was just like the middle of the night, the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song resolutely moved along the sacred revolutionary road. He was truly Korea's brilliant star and glorious sun.

The profound truth of chuche, which was elucidated by the great leader after perceiving the demand of the new era, became a torch light which embraced the rays of revival to the whole nation. Also, the leader's bosom that is possessed with lofty comradely love and personality became a great revolutionary bosom in which the revolutionaries entrusted their whole lives.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song was upheld as the great leader and the center of unity and leadership. This was luck among luck and glory among glory of the Korean revolutionaries. The revolutionary fighter is filled with great joy and honor, able to uphold such a great comrade and great teacher who leads their fate and future. Thus, it was possible to call the respected and beloved leader under the lofty name of hanbyol.

"Let's follow hanbyol in high esteem forever," this was the motto of life and the struggle for and uninterrupted will of the youth communists.

Loyalty of the first generation of the revolutionaries—who had a do-or-die resolution tiding over the confines of trials no matter how arduous the road was and sharing their life and death with each other till the last even if the fire wind blew—were truly ardent and thorough.

No matter how many years have slipped past and although the mountains and streams have changed tens or hundreds of times, we can never forget the pioneering path of the revolution, because the noble spirit, the hanbyol spirit, which holds the respected and beloved leader in high esteem as the eternal hanbyol, has been created. Since then, our revolution has advanced afar.

Shedding hot blood in the wilderness and making their way through the untrodden path of the revolution with burning loyalty for the leader, our numerous revolutionary patriotic forefathers have passed away from us. The objective surroundings of our revolution have much changed and the generation who would press ahead with the revolution and construction has changed too.

Nonetheless, the center of our revolution's unity and leadership remains unchanged today, and so do the belief and passion overflowing in the revolutionary ranks.

The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song is our people's eternal hanbyol and eternal sun today and tomorrow. Today, while keeping in mind the iron-willed promises he made in his early years before the revolution, the great leader is leading our people firmly to the future of socialist and communist by shouldering all the heavy burden of the fatherland and the revolution all by himself. Even today when the respected and beloved leader has overcome the sternest storm in modern history, brilliantly achieved the sacred causes for the revival and prosperity of the nation, and established the ideal society centered on the popular masses on this land, his warm passion for the revolution and love for the people remain unchanged.

The great leader's tireless and energetic ideological and theoretical activities are the source of the light illuminating the road of socialism of our own style and his energetic on-the-spot guidance is the motive force which makes our whole society seethe with miracles, innovations, feats, and creation.

The ideology and theory of the respected and beloved leader are immortal and so is his leadership. His love and achievements dedicated to the people have eternal viability. For this reason, all our party members and working people proudly praise the great leader as the eternal hanbyol of our revolution and eternally following him in high esteem.

Today, the hanbyol spirit is very much alive in our people's hearts. We dearly love and enjoy singing "Song of Comradeship" not simply because we want to recall the glorious past of our revolution. We do so because it is full of life with the ardent aspirations and will of the people of our generation who regard the respected and beloved leader as the eternal hanbyol and serve him until the end of the time. For our people, "Song of Comrades" will always have viability even though hundreds and thousands of years pass.

Our people are burning with whole-hearted desire to faithfully uphold the respected and beloved leader with the belief and will comprised in this revolutionary song today and tomorrow.

The noble traits of our people in always holding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the eternal hanbyol lie in their absolute trust in him and entrusting all their destiny to him. If the revolutionaries

are to make their way through the grim revolutionary road, they should have belief. This belief is the firm belief that they have the leadership of the great leader and that they can only attain victory and glory when they follow the leader.

The revolutionary fighters should have the absolute faith in their leader. With such faith, they would not feel lonely even in an isolated island and could display valor on a fierce life-and-death battlefield.

Hanbyol, the noble lofty name which our people gave, contains our people's resolute trust that they will always regard the respected and beloved leader as the pillar of their minds and get confidence from the greatness of the leader.

Looking back to the course of our people's revolutionary struggle, we note that there were many trials which seemed to be too difficult to overcome, with a number of grave perilous situations that prevailed. Nevertheless, our people have been able to firmly maintain the vitality of the Korean revolution at any time and place without losing the faith in the future of the revolution, because they firmly believed in the greatness of the respected and beloved leader. Our people have waged a vigorous struggle, believing in victory from the iron-will and unequalled courage of the respected and beloved leader who was never perturbed in any adversity and foreseeing the bright future from the leadership of the leader who turned misfortune into fortune with keen insight into the prevailing situation.

It has been our people's traditional ethos from the time of the first generation of the revolution to the present to advance along the single road of the revolution upholding only the Hanbyol in any difficult and complicated times. Because they had this absolute faith, our people's minds turned only to the supreme command of the respected and beloved leader in the stern days of the Fatherland Liberation War. In the difficult time after the war when no single brick remained intact, our people were filled with the overflowing faith that they could create new life again as long as they had the great leader's leadership. This iron-strong faith of our people that they will certainly be victorious as long as they have the leader is becoming all the more firm and unshakable with each passing day and year.

Now we are accelerating socialist construction when the imperialists' maneuvers to strangle our revolution are becoming more conspicuous than ever before. However, the enemies' nuclear threat and blockade could not curb our people's faith in the socialism of our own style provided by the great leader.

Our people's belief that they have the great hanbyol who brightens the road to socialist victory and the guiding star who leads our way to ever-victorious exploits makes them a people of bold mind fearless in the face of all trials as they are today. Whenever they look up to the image of the respected and beloved leader who defeated the two strong imperialist enemies in one generation and

is daringly crushing the enemies' anti-socialist maneuvers with his brilliant chuche strategy and tactics, our people are filled with inexhaustible strength and courage and high hopes for the future.

To our people who look up to and follow the great leader as the eternal hanbyol, there cannot be any other way than the chuche road led by the leader. Our people will never deviate from the socialist road which their leader pioneered even though others abandon their ways. Neither will they abandon the pledge they made to the party and the leader by reason of complicated situation. Our people will advance vigorously along the single road of victory directed by the leader adhering only to the respected and beloved leader's ideology and lines as the young communists became the torch light burning in the wilderness and the hammer breaking iron to pieces cherishing the great hanbyol spirit.

Our people's revolutionary ethos of revering and following the great leader as the eternal Hanbyol lies in the fact that they are repaying the leader's love and benevolence with loyalty and with flawlessly clear and clean revolutionary fidelity and conscience. The leader's endless love and benevolence are the source of eternal life which gives the revolutionaries life which they do not lose even if they die. The revolutionary fighter who has been brought up under the leader's care should not forget this benevolence till the end of his life, but repay the leader's benevolence from generation to generation. This is the attitude and position of a fighter who is willing to uphold his leader forever.

The pioneering period of our revolution was a time when each of the revolutionary fighters was as precious as a thousand pieces of gold. The great leader made his motto the words of Mr. Kim Hyong-chik who said that only the person who can die for his comrade can get a good comrade, and pushed his way through the stern trials in which the white terror was rampant and crossed many a death-line whose end was not in sight, for a revolutionary fighter. The boundless love of the great comrade hanbyol who regards the time when he meets the revolutionary fighter with whom he shares life and death as the happiest moment of his life and who regards the comradely fidelity once he formed as the most valuable was the supreme model of the revolutionary comradeship which a communist revolutionary could have. A firm resolve to devote their entire life to hanbyol beat powerfully in the hearts of the indomitable revolutionary fighters who received the great comrade hanbyol who gave them the eternal life of a revolutionary as great as an ocean.

They did not want any honor or position which would be provided for them in the future nor did they pursue a comfortable life.

They did not know when the revolution would be victorious, and they faced it with rugged, thorny mountainous roads. In these difficult days, the young communists held the leader in high esteem by cherishing such a

clean and pure revolutionary obligation. Indeed, they were genuine revolutionaries and loyalists.

The clean revolutionary conscience and obligation to their leader, which were cherished by the patriotic revolutionary forefathers in the past, today have been embodied in our people's work and life.

While thinking of the great leader's boundless benevolence and care, our party members and workers are engaged in production and construction out of sheer desire to repay his benevolence and love, even a little.

The working class in Kangson and Nagwon, which has grown to be a magnificent leading class of the nation under the great leader's leadership and loving care, and young subteam members, who are safeguarding the farm lands that are filled with traces of the leader's benevolence, are leading their life by cherishing an ardent aspiration to give greater satisfaction and joy to the leader.

Our people's sense of admiration and respect of the great leader is the most pure and clean feeling and emotion without any selfishness and without any idea to pursue honor. It is an everlasting trait not limited by any standard.

The song, "The Leader, The Night Has Far Advanced," which has been ardently sung by our people, reflects clean conscience cherished by revolutionary fighters who only wish the leader's peace.

During the period of our revolution being pioneered, there were only few revolutionary fighters who had indomitable and unyielding revolutionary spirit. However, today the whole society has become a big household which holds the party and the leader in high esteem with clean conscience and obligation.

All of us, from commanding members of the revolution to ordinary workers, peasants, children and even old people, are demonstrating a great revolutionary outlook of our society to endlessly follow and uphold the respected leader as father of the people. This outlook can be found everywhere.

With blood ties between the leader [suryong] and people and between the leader [yongdoja] and fighters, which are linked on the basis of lofty love and clean moral obligation, our revolutionary ranks are pure and mighty as today.

The noble ideological and moral traits of our people in holding the great leader as hanbyol forever find another expression in exerting all efforts to steadfastly defend his undisputed prestige.

The lofty prestige of the party and the leader has decisive significance in advancing and defending the revolution.

All victories and achievements attained in the struggle to defend and protect our socialist cause cannot be thought

of without lofty prestige cherished by the respected leader toward the people at home and abroad.

The great leader's prestige is the loftiest prestige which no one has ever had in history; is undisputed prestige which cannot be destroyed with anything; and is mighty prestige with tractive force, with power to influence, and with driving power that transcends all powers.

In view of a long historic time of his revolutionary activities over nearly 70 years, of the greatness of his achievements made in this course, and of the uncommon nature of his leadership traits, our respected leader is the greatest man among all great men.

Thanks to the lofty prestige of the great leader, Korea is brilliant, our people's desire has been defended, and our happiness is guaranteed over generations.

Because they keenly realized this, our party members and workers assumed it as loftiest mission of the time and as a supreme duty which they should not fail to fulfill at any time and any place to defend our great hanbyol.

Ours are the revolutionary people who do not know even a slightest degree of concession or retreat in the work of defending the leader [yongdoja].

The core of indomitable revolutionary spirit we inherited from first generation of the revolution is firm determination and faith to defend the leader with our lives by making all ranks become rifles and bombs.

Our people are holding the respected leader in high esteem as an everlasting hanbyol. Our hearts are vigorously beating with the indomitable spirit of the revolutionary patriotic forefathers who blocked the enemy's bullets with their bodies by shouting "Long live hanbyol!" and held the leader in high esteem by transcending everything.

All of the old fighters who traversed a long revolutionary path following the great leader, young functionaries, and common party members and workers, assumed as a firm principle in their work and life the fact that there cannot be any deviation in the issue pertaining to the leader's prestige.

The genuine warriors of the party who defended the great leader's portrait to the last even in the moment when their lives were endangered, and genuine loyalists and dutiful sons who made all sincere efforts for peace, good health and long life of the leader, today are constantly emerging. This shows the lofty nature of our people's unbreakable faith and integrity.

The leader's lofty prestige is to be defended and protected by the struggle to glorify his revolutionary achievements. The lesson in history illustrates that how one assumes one's attitude toward achievements made by the leader becomes a touchstone discriminating the loyalist from the traitor and the revolutionary from the betrayer.

The revolutionary achievements made by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the course of long and arduous struggle are assets as precious as life for our people. His achievements became the lineage which links the glorious past, present, and brilliant future of our revolution.

Just as the revolutionary achievements of the respected leader are everlasting and immortal, our people's revolutionary will to tenaciously defend them is also everlasting.

Even when other people advanced along the road of damaging the leader's achievements, being impressed on revisionist trend and forgetful of their leader's benevolence, our people more highly held the banner of establishing the party's monolithic ideological system. When the enemy schemed to crush our-style socialism—the precious revolutionary gain—our people defended it to the last with unswerving will.

The way of thinking and practice of our people today are consistent with a sincere resolution to more satisfactorily implement the historic teachings which were given by the respected leader to their domains and units and to further glorify the leader's leadership achievements.

Only when today's generation, which is living in a glorious era of carrying out the revolution by upholding the great leader, defends the *chuche* lineage without deviation, can our distant future generations realize the greatness of such lineage and carry it on to the end. This is the truth that our people cherish as their faith.

As long as there are loyal people who will never forget the leader's grateful benevolence and brilliant achievements, our revolution will continually advance vigorously along the *chuche* road which was provided during the period of its exploration.

A long time has passed since our revolution had dawned under the banner of *chuche*.

In the lofty height of the 1990's, we are vigorously carrying out the struggle to accomplish the socialist cause. However, the historic advance of our revolution has not ended. We are faced with a road of more arduous struggle.

We must continue the march of the revolution, which we began by upholding the great *hanbyol*, to the last, generation after generation.

The revolutionary spirit which we displayed in the past and which we must display in the future is the spirit of great *hanbyol*. The spirit of *hanbyol* is the spirit of absolute trust to share the ideas and destiny with the leader. This is the spirit of unconditionality to accomplish the leader's ideas and intents under any circumstance, and is an indomitable revolutionary spirit to defend the center of unity and of leadership with death-defying determination.

Just as in the past when we were overflowing with joy and deep emotion for having greeted the great teacher and great comrade for the first time, our people will struggle by invariably upholding the respected leader at the van of our revolution and will carry on the leader's cause forever with loyalty.

Just as the orbit of satellites following the sun is unchangeable, our people's pledge to render loyalty to the leader until the world ends will never change.

The spirit which was displayed by the first generation of our revolution in following the great *hanbyol* is now being inherited pure and clean in holding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great guiding star [*hyangdosong*] which is leading the nation to the brilliant future by shouldering the destiny of the time and revolution and the destiny of our people and nation.

Because dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, who has iron-clad will, indomitable leadership, and boundlessly broad generosity and character, stands at the head of our revolution, our people are endlessly glorifying lofty political life by cherishing firm conviction in the future of the revolution.

Immovable is our people's resolution to always hold in high esteem dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as an eternal, great *hanbyol* by inheriting pure and clean the tradition of loyalty established by the first generation of the revolution. No matter how complicated the situation may be and no matter what trials we may face in the future, we will remain the incarnation of faith and will and fight to invariably keep the pledge we made to the leader [*yongdoja*].

The revolutionary struggle of our people, who are following the great *hanbyol* forever and vigorously advancing, will be ever-victorious and indomitable.

KCNA Reviews 21 April Pyongyang Press

SK2104084493 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0506
GMT 21 Apr 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 21 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received the general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Peru and his companion.

Papers report that the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received gifts from the revolutionary socialist party of Peru.

Seen in papers are messages of greetings to President Kim Il-song from foreign party and state leaders on his 81st birthday and a report that he received congratulatory letters from the headquarters of Koreans in China under Pominnyon and the chairman of the committee

for the promotion of Korea's reunification in the commonwealth of independent states.

NODONG SINMUN carries a letter to President Kim Il-sung from the participants in the 11th April spring friendship art festival.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from his Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

Seen in NODONG SINMUN is a message of greetings of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the first national congress of the Communist Party of Jordan.

Papers dedicate editorials to the 45th anniversary of the historic joint conference of the representatives of political parties and public organizations of North and South Korea and give an account of a Pyongyang meeting held to mark the occasion.

In an article papers state that more than 170 parties have signed the Pyongyang declaration "let us defend and advance the cause of socialism" in a year since its publication and these parties are vigorously fighting for socialism with the declaration as the common action programme.

Papers inform the readers that a Pyongyang mass meeting was held to welcome the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic and an agreement on cooperation between the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of Korea and the national progressive front of Syria was signed.

NODONG SINMUN carries a joint statement issued by the Workers' Party of Korea and the labour party of Dominica and accounts of receptions hosted by the WPK central committee for foreign party leaders.

Papers report that the chairman of the C.C., the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea and the chairman of the C.C., the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea issued statements and the leading officials of Nepali organizations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people held an emergency consultative meeting and adopted a joint action programme in support of the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation.

Under the title "no amount of 'pressure' from U.S. will work in Korea" NODONG SINMUN conveys world public voices concerning the strained situation created on the Korean peninsula by the U.S. imperialists and their followers.

The paper gives an account of the 89th inter-parliamentary conference.

South Korea

DPRK Said To Ask for ROK Help With Oil Fields

SK2104002093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] North Korea, which is suffering serious oil shortages, is reported to be directly or indirectly asking ROK businesses to participate in the development of its undersea oil fields.

Relevant authorities and business officials said today that North Korea is deeply interested in forming joint venture companies to develop the oil fields in the seabed of its East and West Seas and has directly and indirectly asked ROK businesses like Samsung and Lucky-Goldstar to participate in its oil field development projects.

North Korea is actively promoting undersea oil field projects in the sea off Nampo on the West coast and off Wonsan on the East coast. Having conducted geological explorations in the sea near Wonsan since 1987, it is now concentrating its efforts on drilling.

DPRK Envoy Urges DPRK-U.S. High-Level Talks

SK2104020593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0153 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea has said that it would move to solve the nuclear issue if the United States accepted high-level Pyongyang-Washington talks. Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN newspaper reported Wednesday from the United Nations. "The nuclear problem will be solved when North Korea-U.S. high-level negotiations begin," Ho Chong, North Korean deputy chief of mission to the United Nations, was quoted as saying in an interview with the MAINICHI. "The high-level negotiations are between government representatives given authority by the governments of the two countries," Ho said.

Washington, in a change of mind, said last week that such direct contact with Pyongyang was possible. North Korea has long demanded high-level talks with the United States. The deputy chief said there were five conditions that had to be met before North Korea would return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and accept International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections.

First, the South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise Team Spirit must stop; second, North Korea must be able to see military installations in the South; third, the United States must guarantee it will not launch a nuclear attack on North Korea; fourth, the United States must also lift the nuclear umbrella over South Korea; and fifth, the North Korean socialist system must be recognized.

Ho placed top priority on talks with the United States, saying that a meeting between government representatives "can solve all problems." The United States had ignored North Korea's plea at Beijing contacts for a solution through negotiations, Ho told MAINICHI, warning that Pyongyang would take "firm action" if its plea was ignored.

As to what that firm action would be, the diplomat said only that it would surpass NPT withdrawal, and that if the U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions, North Korea would take even harsher measures. On North Korea-Japan diplomatic normalization, Ho said Japan must acknowledge North Korea's sovereignty and apologize for the atrocities that it committed during 35 years of colonial rule over Korea. There was no point in resuming the normalization talks as long as Japan was pressuring North Korea over the nuclear issue, Ho said.

U.S. Undersecretary Arrives in Seoul 21 Apr

SK2104015093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0141 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Peter Tarnoff arrived in Seoul on Wednesday for a visit that will most likely be spent coordinating positions on North Korea's nuclear issue. Tarnoff, here until Friday, will meet Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong and Unification Minister Han Wan-sang on Thursday. He may meet with President Kim Yong-sam.

The United States is considering a high-level contact with North Korea to break the stalemate over Pyongyang's nuclear problem. The hardline communist country decided last month to leave the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Tarnoff and Seoul officials are expected to coordinate joint measures in the coming months, including U.N. Security Council actions and China's persuasion of North Korea.

Seoul To Attend Asia-Pacific Economic Conference

SK2104061793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea will participate in an Asia-Pacific Economic Conference in Japan this week whose results will be submitted to the G-7 Summit in July, the Foreign Ministry announced Wednesday. Son Chong-yong, assistant foreign minister, will head the Seoul delegation to the "Conference on Changing World Economy and the Asia-Pacific Region" in Awashima on Friday and Saturday.

The 15 countries attending the conference, sponsored by the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Institute of International Affairs, will pledge regional cooperation away from economic blocs and joint measures against the European Community single market and North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), officials said.

Seoul will emphasize multilateral trade negotiations, successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round and strengthening of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) at the conference, they said.

Strong Yen Said To Aid Electronics Exports

SK2104062093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—Japan's strong currency means more orders for South Korean companies. Business giants Hyundai and Samsung recently won contracts to build two bulk carriers for Japanese ship-owners and major Japanese electronics makers are turning to Korean suppliers. Hitachi Ltd., which has bought 1 mega dram semiconductors from Goldstar Electron Co. on an original equipment manufacturing basis since 1990, has increased its purchases threefold this year by starting to buy the first 4 mega dram semiconductors, industry sources said.

Korea's exports of electronics goods have been growing rapidly, unlike last year when they declined as Japanese makers had turned to their subsidiary plants in Southeast Asia. Exports of color television sets to Japan, in particular, are rising this year.

In March, Korea exported 13.4 million U.S. dollars of color television sets to Japan, up 275.6 percent over the same month a year earlier, and saw a 37-percent increase in the first three months of this year. Exports of steel products increased 5.2 percent to 354 million dollars in the first quarter. Last year, Korean exports of steel products fell 19.3 percent to 1.41 billion dollars.

PRC Largest Importer of Steel in 1st Quarter

SK2104062193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—China beat Japan in its way to becoming the largest importer of South Korean steel products in the first quarter at 355 million U.S. dollars, up 352.6 percent from a year earlier. This compares with 354 million dollars for Japan. China bought 797 million dollars of Korean steel in 1992, up 467.6 percent from 1991, but Japan imported 1.419 million dollars worth.

China's section imports were 21 million dollars, up 30 times; wire rod, 99 million dollars, up 183 times; plate, 35.5 million dollars, up 3 times; hot rolled coil, 96 million dollars, up 5.4 times; steel pipe, 4 million dollars, up 6 times; and wire rope, 570,000 dollars, up 114 times. The sharp rise was due to a construction boom in China and the strength of the Japanese currency.

'Source': U.S. To Propose High-Level Talks With DPRK

SK2104054893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English 21 Apr 93 p 2

[By staff correspondent Kim Hye-won]

[Text] The United States and North Korea are expected to have a counselor-level contact in Beijing this week to tap the possibility of having higher-level talks on the North Korean nuclear issue. A diplomatic source in Seoul said Washington will propose high-level meetings, possibly between ministers of the two countries stationed in Beijing, during the counselor-level contact, that will likely occur right after the South Korean-Chinese foreign ministers' talks in Bangkok today.

Whether the high-level meeting will happen depends upon the attitude of Pyongyang officials, he said. The North Koreans must express their willingness to reverse the decision to leave the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

The source said the United States was at first reluctant to have direct negotiations with the North Koreans. U.S. officials did not want to give them the wrong signals.

Washington finally changed its mind in the face of continued South Korean persuasion, the source said. South Korean officials, from the beginning, have believed that all possible efforts, both bilateral and international, should be made to relieve the current crisis, he said.

The source said efforts through such international organizations as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the U.N. Security Council may be more effective in enlisting international attention on the issue. But all they can do is to demand something from North Korea. Substantial negotiations, however, are possible only at bilateral settings.

In addition, both China and North Korea have continually demanded direct negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang. In fact, it is the only demand they have made concerning the nuclear matter up to now.

By complying with the request, Washington and Seoul expect Pyongyang to shift its position without losing face. China may also feel more free to participate in any collective action against North Korea at the U.N. Security Council when the United States has had dialogues as it suggested, the source said. The high-level contacts between Pyongyang and Washington will likely continue for several rounds before they bear any fruit.

The United States may offer some "carrots" in the course of negotiations, that could include a permanent halt to the annual South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise, Team Spirit. Washington officials may also offer to provide security guarantees against attacks on North Korea, to increase trade possibilities, or to offer the prospect of improved ties.

North Koreans should, in return, promise to return to the NPT, receive inspections of their two suspected facilities in Yongbyon by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and ultimately, abide by the inter-Korean declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the source said. Where the two sides

will meet or who will represent them is not yet known. The source said such details will be decided at the forthcoming counselor-level talks.

But another diplomat predicted that the meetings are not likely to be another round of Kanter-Kim Yong-sun talks, the highest-level meeting between the two sides since the Korean War (1950-53). Arnold Kanter, then-U.S. under-secretary of state, met Kim, director of the international department of North Korea's Communist Party, in New York in January 1992 to deliver U.S. concerns about the North Korean nuclear weapons development program.

Instead, Washington will simply upgrade the counselor-level talks, which have been held in Beijing since December 1988, to minister level, the source said. The Seoul government, meantime, does not seem to be considering bilateral contact with Pyongyang at the moment.

A South Korean diplomat said Seoul does not want to give Pyongyang an excuse to avoid international sanctions by bringing the issue to inter-Korean dialogues. The ultimate goal of both Seoul and Washington, however, is to realize denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula, therefore the North Korean issue should be dealt with by the two Koreas at later stages, he said.

Air Force Inspector Blames Pilot Error for F-16 Crash

SK2104094593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0851 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—Pilot error caused the crash of a South Korean F-16 fighter on April 8, not a defect in the plane, the air force's inspector general announced Wednesday. Maj. Gen. Kim Hyon told reporters that Capt. Chong Chae-nam, 31, developed spatial disorientation while flying in clouds at night and dived his plane into a mountain near the Chungju Multipurpose Dam in North Chungchong Province. He said Chong died instantly.

A thorough investigation of the black box from the F-16 had revealed what had happened, Gen. Kim said. Chong flew in circles until he became so dizzy that his plane turned upside down and went into a dive. By the time he recovered and began to climb, it was too late and the jet plowed into the mountainside, he concluded.

"The investigation shows that there was no malfunction in the airframe, engines and control gear at the time of the crash after thoroughly checking the crash site, the black box and tape recordings of the pilot," he said. The results of the investigation came from the plane's maker, Lockheed Corp. of the United States. In cases of spatial disorientation, a pilot no longer knows which way is up and without instruments to guide him can dive or climb without knowing it.

Editorial Calls for Clarification of F-16 Crash

SK2004062593 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
20 Apr 93 p 3

[Editorial: "The F-16 Crash Should Not Go Unclarified"]

[Text] On 8 April, an F-16 of our Air Force crashed during a training flight resulting in the tragic death of the plane's pilot. The Air Force then totally suspended all flight F-16 training. Air Force authorities investigated the cause of the incident and its conclusions were announced ten days later in a brief announcement which said that the crash occurred when the pilot lost his flying sense.

To start by concluding first, the accident is too important to pass over without thorough clarification. Among other things, this fighter plane costs over 20 billion won. We do not know how much this price will be increased by additional high-performance electronic devices the fighter plane may carry. The entire country is teeming with the campaign to refrain from extravagance and reduce budget spending on unnecessary programs, but if a fighter plane of this sort crashes, this thrift campaign loses its significance.

We have purchased some 40 F-16 fighter planes since 1986, and are expected to purchase 120 F-16's by 1997 so that in effect, these fighter planes will form the backbone of our air defense. Moreover, this is the first F-16 crash. Therefore, if there is a problem with F-16's, it will be an enormous "defect" in our Air Force capability and in the security of our country.

Hence, we thought authorities would scrutinize the cause of the crash in the honor and authority of the Air Force and give thorough clarification, in order to make attempts at restoring credibility. However, the Air Force attempted to wind up its investigations with a mere 10 days of investigation and concluded that the crash was caused by the mistake of the pilot.

In the first place, we demand that the Air Force authorities disclose the members of the investigation team and details of specific progress made in their investigation activities. We hear that when an accident occurs for a military installation, particularly a fighter plane and a highly sophisticated helicopter, in a foreign country, the authorities form an objective investigation team also comprised of civilian aviation technology personnel and conduct a strict and scrutinizing investigation for months.

Therefore, we think we are justified in demanding that our military authorities are obligated to report to the people, the taxpayers, on who participated in the investigation and what methods and what level of scrutiny they employed for the investigation. This is all the more so because the authorities should not give an impression of attributing all the causes of the accident to the mistake of the pilot, now that the pilot is dead. Since there has

been more than a little controversy throughout the world over the defects of the F-16, clarification should also be made as to whether the manufacturer has been lobbying in any way.

If the crash was caused by the mistake of the pilot as the Air Force claims, it constitutes a significant problem as well. The Air Force should be able to answer the question, "How did the Air Force let a fighter plane whose price is equal to the amount used to maintain three infantry division troops for one year be lost by the the pilot's lack of skill?" The crash of the F-16 was not a car accident. We think that the authorities should report to the people more sincerely with an appropriate apology.

ROK, U.S. To Settle Defense Burden Shares in Late June

SK2104034593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have agreed to settle their shares of next year's defense burden at a policy review subcommittee meeting slated for late June, the Defense Ministry said on Wednesday. The agreement was reached with H. Allen Holms, U.S. ambassador-at-large for burdensharing, who represented the U.S. Government in the defense burdensharing meeting on April 15, ministry officials said.

In the 23rd security consultative meeting, held in 1991, Seoul agreed to pay one-third of the won-based costs of the U.S. Forces in Korea until 1995. Under the agreement, Seoul paid 150 million U.S. dollars in 1991 and 180 million dollars in 1992, and is to pay 220 million dollars this year.

Daily: Nuclear Issue Aiding DPRK Power Transfer

SK2104061293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0205 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Moscow, April 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea has reacted sharply against international pressure on its nuclear issue in order to ensure a smooth transfer of power from President Kim Il-song to his son and heir, Kim Chong-il, a major Russian newspaper says. The daily SEGODNYA (Today), in its Tuesday edition, said that North Korea actually wanted to be isolated from the rest of the world so that it could carry out the power transfer from the elder Kim to the junior Kim.

Conversely, the international community, which is applying pressure on Pyongyang now, is helping to solidify the dynastic power base of the Kims, the SEGODNYA said, quoting foreign analysts in Pyongyang. China had not obviously taken a friendly attitude toward Kim Chong-il and some Chinese leaders were rumored to believe that one of the best solutions to the Korean problem was to not oppose a "coup d'etat" in North Korea, the paper said.

Because of the possibility for such political change, North Korean leaders could close all of their borders to the outside world in the near future, the paper said. A smooth transfer of power from the great leader to the dear leader depended on the military, the newspaper added.

Although Kim Chong-il is officially the Supreme Commander of the North Korean People's Army, he has no military experience except for two months of military training 30 years ago, the paper said. If Kim Chong-il manages to receive the support of the 1.5 million-man North Korean military, he could rule North Korea for at least 10 years, the paper predicted.

Russia Said To Ban Okhotsk Sea Fishing Zone

*SK2104061693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Moscow, April 21 (YONHAP)—Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Shokhin said Tuesday that his country would ban all fishing in neutral areas of the Okhotsk Sea in the near future, and that it would resume naval exercises to enforce the ban. Russia has suspended naval exercises involving coast guard vessels in the sea for the past few years.

Saying that major fishing countries such as South Korea, China and Poland should promise to stop fishing in neutral areas of the sea, Shokhin said that the Russian action was intended to protect marine resources in the Okhotsk Sea. Shokhin said that a number of Korean, Chinese and Polish boats have fished illegally inside the Russian economic zone away from the neutral areas, and warned that Russia would deal sternly with poachers.

The Russian Government set the fine for poaching at 200,000 rubles three years ago and will make it 400,000 U.S. dollars by converting the then-value of the ruble to dollars. The Okhotsk Sea is the largest pollack fishing grounds in the world and a ban would hurt Korea severely.

Seoul Protests Closure of Okhotsk Zone

*SK2104094293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0754 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—Seoul strongly protested to Moscow on Wednesday over its unilateral closure of the Okhotsk fishing zone, which South Korea and other countries insist was a violation of international laws. The Russian parliament adopted a resolution April 16 banning all fishing until there was an acceptable agreement among the countries—South Korea, Japan, China and Poland—whose boats fish the waters.

Moscow, claiming ecological disaster, said it was closing the fishing zone in February before adopting the resolution. Korea and other countries say the action is a clear violation of the U.N. law of the sea.

Foreign Ministry officials, after consulting with involved countries, said the declaration of a moratorium should be based on scientific evidence, which Russia did not present. The involved countries were currently engaged in multilateral negotiations to settle a quota, and Russia should wait until the negotiations were completed, the officials said.

The ministry protested in a meeting with Georgii Toloraya, minister at the Russian embassy in Seoul, explaining Seoul's voluntary actions to refrain from fishing in Okhotsk until a resolution. Seoul has a fisheries agreement with Russia for 150,000 tons of pollack this year, but the pact was virtually made void in February when the two sides disagreed on catching fees.

Some 30 South Korean vessels have been in Okhotsk but almost all of them withdrew, officials said. Russia proposed that a multilateral meeting open next month in Moscow to settle the dispute, and Seoul asked that Moscow withhold any unilateral action until the meeting.

Officials said Moscow has not yet responded to Seoul's request. If all fails, Seoul would have to buy about 200,000 tons of pollack from Russia at a price 200 to 600 dollars higher per ton, officials said.

ROK Firms Reject DPRK Oil Exploration Offer

*SK2104032793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0104 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea has turned to South Korean companies for help with its offshore oil exploration, but they have turned it down, industry sources here said Wednesday. Lucky-Goldstar International Corp. said Wednesday that it was asked by Japan's Toyo Engineering Co. to join hands in drilling for oil off the coast of Wonsan in Southeast North Korea, but it refused as it felt the time was not right.

At North Korea's request, Toyo was to begin seabed exploration near Wonsan, where oil reservoir rocks have been found, in March, but it delayed the start to May-June. Yi Pil-Kon, then vice chairman of Samsung Co., is said to have been asked to take part in oil development when he met with North Korean Deputy Prime Minister Kim Tal-hyon in Beijing last December.

Samsung studied the proposal, repeated several times afterward, but concluded that it was not wise to join the project at the present time. North Korea is said to be optimistic at the discovery of oil reservoir stones beneath the West Sea near Nampo and East Sea off Wonsan and has drilled down 6,000 meters below the seabed in the east sea. It started exploration in the area in 1987.

Experts Discount 'Rumors' of DPRK Oil Deposits

SK2104032893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT
21 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 21 (YONHAP)—Rumors that North Korea has found a vast undersea oil reserve off Nampo are probably greatly exaggerated, according to a South Korean geologist. North Korea has tapped a mammoth petroliferous basin in the sea adjacent to a Chinese oil pool in the Gulf of Chihli (Po Hai) and Shangdong but is holding back the news to maximize the surprise, according to hearsay among North Korea watchers here, including trading company officials and members of the foreign press corps.

The rumors are even embellished with such daring speculation that Pyongyang was so encouraged by the discovery that it was willing to risk withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). But the stories, although interesting, have left people in the government and business circles here unconvinced.

Some government officials claim the rumors were fabricated by Pyongyang to hide its troubles at home and abroad. "It is true that North Korea once found oil indications in the past, but there is no evidence that it has succeeded in developing an oil field," says one.

North Korea began offshore drilling around 1975, when its southern counterpart was cheering over the oil potential in Pohang, and has been seeking oil in the East and West Sea. The oil exploration bureau of the natural resources development ministry has reportedly been exploring sedimentary layers in Anju, Shinuiju, Wonsan, Nampo and Mt. Paektu with the help of Australian and Swedish oil prospecting companies and technological assistance from Romania and China. It seems to have found potential reservoirs in the sea off Sinuiju, North Pyongan Province, in 1991 and also in the sea near Wonsan later. A Japanese company was asked to survey the seabed near Wonsan in June.

Based on its studies, North Korea explained, in the October 1991 edition of the international oil geologic journal, that there might be oily lacustrines of the Mesozoic Jurassic period beneath the seabed in Sohan Bay between Shinuiju and Nampo. But experts here say finding the oily rocks is far from discovering a commercial oil field, and inferring that there is an oil bed in the West Sea off North Korea due to its proximity to the Gulf of Chihli is not logical because of the geological differences between the two basins.

O Chae-ho, a senior researcher at the Petroleum Resources Research Division of the Korea Institute of Geology, Mining, and Materials, says that similar rocks were also discovered in Kunsan and Incheon in the South and that exploration of the region has ended without anything to show for it. If North Korea had developed an oil field, experts would have already done feasibility tests because the international oil market is very limited, O says, brushing aside the rumors of a massive oil strike in

the North. But he adds that he cannot rule out the possibility entirely because of the geological structure of the continental shelf in the West Sea.

Observers say North Korea pins high hopes on just such a possibility, exciting its citizens with it. A North Korean refugee says there were rumors of an oil discovery in the sea near Nampo in the mid-1980s and that a pipeline was to be built in the area. North Korea is said to have become more ambitious in oil exploration after the Chinese Government invited international bidding for non-marine areas and the Chihli Gulf in February.

Russian Officials To Attend 'Pacific Basin' Conference

SK2004042193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT
20 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 20 (YONHAP)—A group of senior Russian officials and businessmen will attend the general session of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC) in Seoul next month and invite other participants to visit the Far Eastern region of Russia, the Korean Committee of PBEC said Tuesday. Russia had informed the committee that Deputy Prime Minister Alexandr Shokhin, Vice Foreign Minister Georgi Kunadze and Igor Ustinov, chairman of Administration Committee of Free Economic Zone of Nakhodka, would be among its 24 delegates, a spokesman said.

After the general session, May 24-27, Russia will invite the other participants to visit the Russian Far East—Khabarovsk, Nakhodka and Vladivostok—to hear an explanation of investment opportunities for three days. He said 43 participants had said they would accept the Russian invitation, including 13 from South Korea, 13 from Taiwan, nine from Japan, three from the United States and two from Hong Kong. Automakers and general trading companies from Japan and banks and marine companies from Taiwan had applied to visit, and the final number of visitors to Russia was expected to be over 100, the officials predicted.

Russian Government Officials To Visit Seoul

SK2004095093 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
20 Apr 93 p 10

[Text] The Paris Club formed by countries that provided loans to Russia has recently taken steps to give Russia a grace period concerning the repayment of the principal and interest of loans provided to Russia in 1991. Under these circumstances, two Russian government officials, including (Kobchepsuki), director of a bureau of Asian Affairs in the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, suddenly informed that they will visit the ROK on 21 April. It is therefore significant.

Kim Urges Tokyo To Investigate 'Comfort Women' Issue

OW2004141393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT
20 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 20 KYODO—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam urged Japan on Tuesday to determine the truth behind the claims of Korean women who say they were forcibly taken to battlefield brothels to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, Japanese officials said. "Making clear the plain facts (about the comfort women) will be a start for establishing future-oriented relations" between South Korea and Japan," Kim was quoted as saying.

Kim made the remarks during talks with Seiroku Kajiyama, secretary general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), who paid a courtesy call at his official residence in Seoul. Several groups of former comfort women from South Korea and the Philippines have filed suits with Japanese courts seeking official apologies and compensation from the Japanese Government for their sufferings at the hands of the Japanese during the war.

Historians estimate about 100,000 to 200,000 Asian women, mostly Korean, were taken to wartime brothels to provide sex to Japanese soldiers. Japan, which ruled the entire Korean peninsula between 1910 and 1945, recognized the involvement of the Imperial Armed Forces in the recruitment of the comfort women, but has so far failed to acknowledge that the women were forcibly recruited.

Kajiyama, who is currently on a three-day visit to Seoul through Wednesday, passed on to Kim a letter from Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who is also the president of the LDP, the officials said. In the letter, Miyazawa pledged his utmost effort to settle the Korean comfort women dispute, they said.

Kim reiterated South Korea's position that it will not seek compensation from Japan for the former Korean comfort women. "The South Korean government will do what it should toward the problem," Kim said, referring to the government's earlier decision to provide financial support to Korean comfort women.

Meanwhile, Kajiyama conveyed Miyazawa's expectations that Kim will visit Japan at an early date to discuss a wide range of bilateral and international matters. Kim responded by saying he "does not have concrete ideas on the timing" of a visit to Japan.

On bilateral trade issues, Kim noted the chronic trade imbalance between the two countries and said he expects Japan as the world's second largest economic power to find a solution to the problem. Japan's trade surplus with South Korea amounted to 6.19 billion dollars in 1992, down from a record 8.76 billion dollars in 1991.

Earlier in the day, Kajiyama told South Korean Prime Minister Hwang In-song that Japan hopes for a peaceful

resolution to the issue of North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Hwang asked for Japan's cooperation in urging Pyongyang to retract its decision announced March 12 to pull out from the international treaty.

* New Government's Reform Direction Discussed

932C0097A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
3 Mar 93 p 5

[Article by reporter Yi Sang-il: "Public-Backed Fight Against Corruption"]

[Excerpts] The Chongwadae made a very significant statement on 2 March giving glimpses of the nature of the new government. In this statement Presidential Spokesman Yi Kyong-chae disclosed that on that morning President Kim Yong-sam had a breakfast meeting with Han Wan-sang, deputy prime minister and minister of the Unification Board, during which the president said he does not like some people calling his government "the Sixth Republic in its second term," and he would rather want the people to call his government the "Kim Yong-sam Administration" by attaching the president's name to the government as is customary in the United States. [passage omitted]

President Kim was quoted as saying: "Some claim that the Fifth and Sixth Republics also pushed reform. But the so-called reform allegedly carried out by the former governments is totally different in character from ours although the same word "reform" is used. As they are poles apart in substance and direction, our reform and their reform are completely different in terms of public support behind them. Particularly, the Fifth Republic's reform failed because it was pushed by the bayonet and lacked public consent. On the contrary, the civilian government's reform will surely be successful because it is backed by the consensus of the people." [passage omitted]

One of President Kim's close aides explains: "The creation of a new Korea presumes segregation from the past. What was the cause of the past official corruption, the chief culprit of the economic hardship? As you know, official corruption became rampant because a cozy relationship developed between the government and business and money raised through this relationship flowed under the counter as the successive illegitimate governments needed financial resources to maintain their ruling establishments. This kind of Korean disease got worse under the Fifth and Sixth Republics; that is why a major surgery, not just a folk remedy, has now become inevitable. Accordingly, the intensity of the reform move the Kim Yong-sam Administration is undertaking is beyond comparison with any reform attempts in the past. It was out of his desire to create a new society that President Kim has condemned the Fifth Republic as a government maintained by the bayonet." [passage omitted]

In brief, as evident in the formation of the new cabinet and the reshuffling of party posts, President Kim has placed his close aides or reform-minded personages in all the major posts that can become the centers of the reform movement in various fields. Observers say that this strategy stems from the president's calculation to disarm entrenched interest groups one by one and cleanse them with reform.

The DJP faction, the majority force in the DLP, is lying low despite its pent up dissatisfaction because it has got an inkling of the unusual intensity of the reform pressure. There is some reservations about the reform move. For instance, DLP Chairman Kim Chong-pil, a symbol of the old era, obliquely warned when he said, "If you start out running for a long journey, you are bound to fall on the way." However, there is no entrenched interest group which is dare to frontally counter the tide. Each individual in entrenched interest groups has too many vulnerable points to stand up to the authority.

However, it is still an unknown quantity whether President Kim's reform move will succeed as he proudly predicts. True, currently the majority of the people are behind the government's reform move. But the future is what matters. The personnel reshuffle carried out by President Kim is evaluated as being fresh, but his ability to push reform is yet to be tested. [passage omitted]

The reform forces should always keep in mind the possibility that should President Kim's "reform wind" falter for one reason or another, the entrenched interest groups lying low now will raise their heads again in unison.

* Changing Opinion Toward Former President Pak

932C0095A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
11 Mar 93 pp 76-79

[Article by reporter Sin Hyong-chun: "Pak Chong-hui's Posthumous Popularity Booming Thanks to His Personal Charm and His View of the State"]

[Text] [passage omitted] Pak Chong-hui. His name is inseparable from Korea's modern history. His 18-year rule for better or worse occupies a place of its own in the modern history of Korea. When he was assassinated, most people said, "the era of the dictatorship is gone, and spring has come." The public opinion of him was by and large negative.

Ever Rising Popularity in Public Opinion Polls

In September 1989 Korea Gallup Institute polled 1,556 men and women over 20 nationwide in a public opinion survey marking the 10th anniversary of former President Pak Chong-hui. Asked "how beneficial do you think Pak Chong-hui's 18-year rule was to our history?" 26.1 percent answered "beneficial in a great deal" and 40.0 percent "beneficial." On the other hand, 20.7 percent said "not so beneficial," and 7.0 percent said "not

beneficial in a great degree." This means 60 percent had an affirmative view of Pak Chong-hui.

Affirmative answers increased in the subsequent polls as years went by. In a June 1992 poll conducted by Media Research on 1,500 men and women 20 years and older nationwide, 88 percent chose Pak Chong-hui as the president who performed his presidential duties the best among all the former presidents. Pak Chong-hui's mark was overwhelming compared with the marks for Syngman Rhee (3 percent), Chon Tu-hwan (3 percent), and No Tae-u (2 percent).

In a February 1993 Korea Gallup poll of 515 men and women nationwide except Cheju Province, 85.3 percent said President Pak Chong-hui ruled the country well. In this survey each former president's individual job performance was compared. Pak Chong-hui led the rest, with Syngman Rhee polling 23 percent, Chang Myong 9 percent, Chun Tu-hwan 32 percent, No Tae-u 27.3 percent. The positive approval rate for Pak Chong-hui increased by 20 percent in three years and five months.

One thing that cannot be overlooked is the fact that Pak Chong-hui's approval rate is not so low among intellectuals either, who are regarded as the forces critical of him, and the margin of increase in the approval rate is higher among intellectuals than the average. Among college students and people with college education or higher, 50.6 percent positively approved of Pak Chong-hui in the 1989 Gallup poll and the percentage rose to 78.1 percent in the 1993 Gallup poll. In the 1993 Gallup polls, the percent point increase in the approval rate for Pak Chong-hui was 7 percent higher among intellectuals than the average rate of increase.

We do not have to take the trouble of referring to complicated figures in public opinion polls. These days we come across stories about Pak Chong-hui more often than ever before. Currently, Pak Chong-hui is a popular subject for media. For instance, his story appears in the television drama series "Third Republic" and in the cover story in the WOLGAN CHOSON March edition. The same is true with publications. According to sources in the publishing industry, about 10 books on Pak Chong-hui were published in the 1980's. From 1990 to 1992 alone, 15 books on him were published. Now let us turn to the national cemetery to see what is happening there.

On 25 February, the presidential inauguration day, there was an unbroken line of people visiting the late President Pak Chong-hui's grave despite the chilly weather. At about 1 PM two buses arrived in the front of the grave five minutes apart, one carrying a group of 47 villagers from Pangsang-ri, Changgi myon, Yongil County, North Kyongsang Province, and the other carrying 28 villagers from Hyoryong myon, Kunwi County, North Kyongsang Province. These tour groups burned incense in the golden incense bowl before the grave and offered their prayers. According to Yi Chae-yol (69 years old, resident of Changgi myon, Yongil County), his group was visiting

the grave while on a sight-seeing tour of Seoul. He said: "We visited the grave twice before from our village. Thanks to him, we can take a tour like this."

According to the Kongjak-tong National Cemetery management office, approximately 50,000 people visited the late President Pak Chong-hui's grave in January this year. This compares with 38,000 visitors, 38,000 visitors, and 40,000 visitors in the same month of 1990, and 1991, and 1992, respectively.

The curator, Chong Sung-hwa (52), said, "There are many visitors from the countryside, but contrary to the past, the number of young visitors is also increasing.

Let us describe the current phenomenon of increasing public interest in Pak Chong-hui as a "Pak Chong-hui boom," although this expression may have some room for misinterpretation. "How come Pak Chong-hui is returning to life again?" Is his resurrection to be viewed in the same vein as the reevaluation of the French monarch Louis 16th and the rehabilitation of the Russian Czar Nicolas II that are being discussed?

Some interpret this as a passing phenomenon coinciding with the end of the military rule resulting from the installation of the new government. They argue that with the end of the military rule, people are looking back on its genesis. Program Director Ko Sok-man, who directed "Third Republic," says there is some truth in this argument. He says: "At the planning session for the TV drama Third Republic last June, we discussed the timing for the release of the series. The dominant view was that February 1993 could be the best time as far as the audience rating is concerned." Some critics argue, "the so-called Pak Boom is what the media has created arbitrarily for commercial purposes by taking advantage of the transfer of government and the end of the era of the two Kims." But people began to reappraise Pak Chong-hui affirmatively in public opinion polls in the 1980's.

Many critics attribute "the Pak boom" to the "historical perspective" that allows people to evaluate Pak Chong-hui coolly.

According to these critics, the "Pak boom" stems from criticism against the two presidents after him. This is to say that he gained in public stature as a result of the "failed rule" of his successors. They say that the "economic failure" of President No Tae-u in particular had the effect of highlighting Pak Chong-hui's image as "economic president."

Some critics find the cause in the worldwide neo-conservative trend. Capitalism won a complete victory in the confrontation with the socialist system. Korea is not an exception. South Korea has won a complete victory in the "competition between the two different systems of the North and South, and people attribute this victory to Pak Chong-hui."

Cho Kap-che, director of WOLGAN CHOSON, says: "The presence of Kim Il-song gives added luster to the image of Pak Chong-hui. South Korea's victory has become clear in the confrontation between the two opposing systems—opening to the outside world for modernization vs. the system of self-reliance. That is why Pak Chong-hui is gaining popularity."

Some Critical of Pak's Economy-First Stance

Unlike those who find the cause of the "Pak boom" in external factors, some critics find the cause in the Pak Chong-hui system itself. These critics say the Pak Chong-hui was not all that bad.

A Seoul University sociology professor, who asked not be identified, expressed this view: "We cannot criticize the Pak regime unconditionally only because his politics was given a 0 mark. Our national research organizations, such as the 'Center for Asian Studies,' and the now defunct 'Research Institute for Reform of Political Structure' studied the economic and scientific development accomplished under the Pak regime as a model of economic reform achievable under an authoritarian regime."

In China the "doctrine of neo-authoritarianism" was quite "fashionable" from 1986 to the Tiananmen Incident of 1989. This doctrine used as its theoretical base the book ("Political Order in Changing Society"), Yale University Press, 1986, authored by the Harvard University professor of political science, Samuel Huntington. In this book Prof. Huntington argues that authoritarian rule is more effective for economic development in developing countries. Scholars belong to the school of opening came out with this same argument openly when the 13th CPC Congress was in session in October 1987. With the strengthening of the Deng Xiaoping-Zhao Ziyang line in their minds, they argued that morally strong leaders should emerge so that they might maximize modernization efforts through economic opening while narrowing the scope of political reform. They cited Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan in the Pak Chong-hui era as examples. The "doctrine of neo-authoritarianism" subsequently subsided with Zhao Ziyang's fall following the Tiananmen Incident of 1989. But we can safely say that China's present leadership system is following the "doctrine of neo-authoritarianism." [passage omitted]

A Yonsei University professor of political science who asked to not be identified said, "The economic development as we see it today would have been impossible but for Pak Chong-hui." "A strong leadership structure," he added, "was necessary to achieve economic development while in confrontation with communism."

The personal charm of Pak Chong-hui is a factor that should be taken into consideration. WOLGAN CHOSON Director Cho Kap-che said: "No one in modern history has had a greater personal charm than Pak Chong-hui. He started as a teacher and once he was on the verge of being executed for his offense committed

a member of the South Korean Labor Party [communist]. He also served in the military. He experienced the vicissitude of life. In brief, he was a nationalist who believed that we need to develop our country even we have to whip our people, in the Confucian aristocratic spirit and the samurai spirit." DP Assemblyman Yi Chol said, "We can hardly support the ruling method of the Pak Chong-hui regime, but I don't want to criticize him as a person, who acted with conviction, right or wrong."

We need to make a psychological approach to the question why people find Pak Chong-hui personally attractive. Recently, Korean society has been rapidly moving into a latter stage of industrial development, with its cultural life marked by the divergence of values. At such a time the mentality of looking for leaders with "fatherly authority" gains ground. Professor Yi Chong-hui of the University of Foreign Studies said, "As pointed out by E Burke, a 19th century English politician, people feel uneasy when the object of their loyalty disappears, and this same feeling of uneasiness seems to exist in our society to some extent."

However, there are quite many people who view the "Pak boom" in an unfavorable light. They argue that the Pak regime should not be judged by its economic performance alone.

According to them, in the final analysis the confusion and sacrifices in the eighties were the consequences of the Pak regime. Social Science Prof. Yim Hyon-chin of Seoul National University said, "The results of recent public opinion surveys are, in a word, deplorable and they raise doubts about the mental maturity of our people." Expressing his apprehension, he said, "Our people seem to be busy looking for new idols instead of searching for alternatives for the future with sound value judgement." Meanwhile, economist Chong Un-yong said, "I cannot understand why Pak Chong-hui's popularity rate is so high at a time when our republic is not as chaotic as the Weimar Republic."

Critics of the "Pak boom" stressed that in evaluating Pak Chong-hui, his economic growth record alone should not be used as a measuring stick, but all the legacies he left behind should be used as a basis of appraisal. Refuting the argument that the country needed a development-oriented dictatorship in the sixtieth, they are unanimous in pointing out that "if the country had been led by democratic methods, the tempo of its economic development might have been slow, but the political confusion in the post-Pak era might have been averted."

After all, how should we judge the place of Pak Chong-hui in modern history? In this connection, I like to refer to the "symposium on democratization" held last October under the auspices of the Seoul University Institute of Social Sciences. In a paper submitted to this symposium under the title "Democratization and the Culture of Mass Politics", Arizona State University Professor Peter Mc Donough argued, by citing the Franco

regime of Spain as an example, that when an authoritarian government succeeds in economic development, the degree of satisfaction the people feel for that government tends to increase with the passage of time. He said that probably this may be the case with the successive authoritarian regimes in Korea.

Who was Pak Chong-hui anyway? Could the "Pak boom" change depending on the "report card" of President Kim Yong-sam?

"To the independence of our country

"The country named Taehan

"He devoted all his life heart and soul

"Our president, President Pak Chong-hui

"With him we will shine forever."

People in their thirties or older will remember that in those days children sang this song while doing jump rope. A lot of questions are yet to be answered in judging Pak Chong-hui. But one thing is certain, that is, the sound of this song is getting louder and louder in our society in the 1990's.

* Administration To Reconsider North Korea Policy

932C0093A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
1 Mar 93 p 11

[By reporter Pak Ui-chun: "A Harbinger of Change in North Korea Policy"]

[Text] The new administration is likely to usher in a new phase in the nation's policy toward North Korea. After the new senior presidential secretary for foreign policy and security was picked from the academic world, the National Unification Board [NUB], the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Agency for Security Planning [ANSP] are now, seemingly coincidentally, led by professor-turned ministers. The development is drawing extraordinary concern, for it signals a shift in the North Korea policy. Before people had time to come out of their surprise at the unprecedented cabinet appointments, the heads of those national unification-related agencies have, in their very first official statements, issued calls of a high tone for "change" and "reform," raising the prospects for changes even more sweeping.

First, at his installation ceremony held on the afternoon of 26 February, the new deputy prime minister and, concurrently, minister of the NUB, Han Wan-sang, took out a note he personally prepared—he had earlier turned down a text of speech prepared by NUB officials—and, after making a special request (?) to the audience to listen carefully, declared: "A moralistic, unification-is-the-supreme-task doctrine or a bureaucratic unification debate centering on Cold War logic should be overcome by all means."

Stating that "this is an era of change and reform and efforts to develop new political culture are under way," Han even said that "we do not necessarily need the old days' experiences," a remark that appeared to serve a notice of some big changes in the offing.

Meanwhile, ANSP Director Kim Tok turned up at the Chongwadae press room and told reporters, "I will be instrumental in developing bright political culture..., boldly doing away with the ANSP function of political surveillance." The act itself, as the ANSP director, was a "big change" that already "occurred."

Moreover, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, in his statement, said that "I will keep whatever should be kept and change whatever should be changed and strive for the mature, substantial, and positive conduct of foreign policy."

In the final analysis, the picking itself by President Kim Yong-sam of the three scholars to fill the cabinet posts related to national unification affairs, it can be said, carried the message that he would launch a forceful, reform-based North-South unification program.

Needless to say, the Korean unification issue involves circumstantial factors such as power dynamics involving countries concerned, a fact that imposes the immovable limits that personnel change alone does not lead to circumstantial change.

How the new unification team leaders will steer the North Korea policy remains to be seen. But, judging from their characters and their inaugural speeches, we can expect major changes in the North Korea policy.

First of all, the policy approach itself is likely to become markedly flexible.

The general observation is that the conservative, hard-line voices will grow much weaker than in the past.

It is because the new unification team leaders, all known for their relatively balanced perception of North-South relations, are likely to significantly alter a climate that has been overwhelmingly conservative.

Especially, Deputy Prime Minister Han is known as a reformist and progressionist. He is expected to introduce programs for a breakthrough in North-South relations, currently at a standstill over the nuclear inspection issue and the Team Spirit military exercise problem.

The prevailing observation is, in short, that the new unification team will likely initiate a shift in the government approach to pending issues including the nuclear inspection and separated families problems, while at least maintaining the balance between the security and unification debates.

Lending support to this observation, President Kim Yong-sam had proposed a North-South summit in his inaugural address.

Furthermore, since those leaders of the Kim Yong-sam administration's first team to work on North-South relations are well acquainted with one another from their days in academic circles, the inter-agency coordinating processes are expected to become much easier.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, ANSP Director Kim Tok, and Chong Chong-uk, senior presidential secretary for foreign policy and security affairs, had long served on advisory committees for the NUB, the Foreign Affairs, and National Defense ministries. Consequently, they know of each other's view very well.

Also, Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang is said to have been a close friend of ANSP Director Kim Tok's since their academic circle days, closely understanding each other even on intimate matters.

Therefore, it is felt that if they cooperate effectively as expected against the customary (?) charges that "scholars tend to persist in their theories," there will be no such cases as in the past where our policy toward North Korea loses consistency and becomes incoherent because of conflicting agency interests.

Redefining the NUB-ANSP relationship over North-South ties is a theme to be watched with special concern.

In this connection, Deputy Prime Minister Han, while noting that "the new ANSP director will reestablish the agency's role befitting the Kim Yong-sam era," made it clear that the NUB will act as a policy locomotive in the North-South unification issue.

Meanwhile, ANSP Director Kim also said that his agency will reduce inappropriate parts of its functions and focus on overseas and North Korean intelligence.

If things go as they say, there will come a division of work between the two agencies, the ANSP focusing on gathering intelligence on North Korea and the NUB taking the initiative in unification policy on the basis of ANSP-provided intelligence.

However, it remains a matter of concern if the division of work will shape smoothly.

In formulating its unification policy, the new administration will, as President Kim Yong-sam emphasized in his inaugural speech, attach importance to national consensus.

Consequently, there will be no such cases as in the past in which voices of people in certain strata are virtually ignored in the administration policy on unification.

How the new foreign policy and security team draw a national consensus and how it will carry it forward will be watched with great concern both at home and abroad.

*** Kim Loyalists Take High Posts in ANSP**

932C0101A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
18 Mar 83 pp 30-32

[By reporter U Chong-chang]

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam's men came and took all the important posts in the Agency for National Security Planning [ANSP], creating widespread uneasiness among the agency officials. New ANSP Director Kim Tok, Second Assistant Director Kim Chong-won, and Kim Ki-sop, head of the agency's Planning Coordination Office, are all members of the president's innermost circle. Meanwhile, First Assistant Director Hwang Chang-pyong is a career ANSP official and one of a handful of pro-YS [Kim Yong-sam—KYS] men in the agency. The take-over of its high echelons by "YS men" plunged the agency in a markedly tense atmosphere.

"The present atmosphere is similar to that created immediately after the 26 October 1979, incident," say agency officials, recalling the days when the ANSP was seized by troops of the Defense Security Command immediately after the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui by Kim Chae-kyu, then director of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency [KCIA, ANSP's predecessor]. Now, effacing themselves as much as they can, officials are holding their breath watching reforms by the president's men.

The ANSP has, under the director, the first assistant director (for domestic operations) and the second assistant director (for overseas operations), and under them, the Planning Coordination Office which is in charge of the agency's budget and personnel affairs. The posts of the first and second assistant directors and the chief of the Planning Coordination Office are equivalent to those of vice ministers of the cabinet and very powerful. All of them are now occupied by President Kim's men, although it is in a way quite natural for a president to put his men in key posts of a central agency.

Kim Tok, 58, the new ANSP director, has been on a team of policy advisers made up by university professors close to President Kim. He was formerly a political science and diplomacy professor at Korea University of Foreign Studies. In early 1980's, when Kim Yong-sam was the president of an opposition party, Kim Tok gave him policy advice from time to time. And during the YS' campaign, he was deeply involved in the drawing of a reform program for a new Korea.

Kim Tok was born in Kumi, North Kyongsang Province. After graduating from Kyonggi High School and the Seoul National University [SNU] law department, he studied international politics at Indiana University, changing his major "because I fell in love with political science." At Korea University of Foreign Studies, he began as a lecturer in March 1962 and, in the next 31 years, served as the dean of academic affairs, the dean of the law and political science department, and the head of the graduate school. An expert on Northeast Asian

affairs, Kim Tok once served as adviser for the National Unification Board and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is a well-known story that in the early days of the Fifth Republic, the military leadership then offered a rather high post and asked his cooperation but he turned it down.

First Assistant Director Hwang Chang-pyong, 53, entered the KCIA in 1966 on his graduation from college, under the open-hire system that was in its second year. He is one of the oldest timers in the agency because those employed in the first year of that system was mostly purged in early 1980's in the KCIA-into-ANSP reorganization process. Hwang has been assigned mostly to operations linked to domestic politics. In the early days of the Fifth Republic, he served as chief of the Political Division. At the time of the "Yongpali incident" [alleged ANSP frame-up against YS-led opposition party], he was away from the ANSP headquarters working as head of a regional branch office. He is seen as a man of big caliber—and of reason as an intelligence bureaucrat. However, Hwang Chang-pyong, a graduate of Pusan's Tonga High School and Korea University, had been little known, eclipsed by the TK [Taegu-North Kyongsang Province] force.

At the time of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] primary for its presidential candidate, bureau-chief-level officials in the ANSP were divided into two groups, pro-YS and anti-YS. And an anti-YS climate was prevailing, some openly taking the side of Pak Tae-chun or Yi Chong-chan. Hwang Chang-pyong, then chief of the First Bureau (policy planning), asserted—on the basis of what he saw as the general situation and rational thinking—that YS should be the DLP candidate. The prudence paid off, for it was reportedly a big factor in his promotion this time.

Second Assistant Director Kim Chong-won, 56, had been a special aide to YS for foreign policy and national security affairs. After graduating from Kyonggi High School in 1955, he studied in the United States on a scholarship, receiving his doctorate in international politics at Johns Hopkins University, and in law at Harvard University after that. He stayed in the United States for 31 years, working as staff researcher at the Columbia research institute on international changes and at the Harvard Law School research institute on Northeast Asian laws while lecturing international politics at Johns Hopkins and Harvard.

Kim Chong-won returned to Korea in 1986, when Min-chuhyop [the Council for the Promotion of Democracy] was organized, and joined the YS camp. He subsequently worked as YS' adviser on foreign policy and national security affairs and was also in charge of public relations with foreign media, mainly American. At the time of the 26 April, 1988, general election, He was registered as a national constituency candidate of the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP]. He is an in-law of President Kim's—his brother Kim chang-won is married to the president's sister.

Kim Ki-sop, 54, chief of the Planning Coordination Office, had been YS' protocol officer. A graduate of Yongnam High School in Taegu and the SNU political science department, he once worked for Anam Industrial, Ltd. and the Samsung Group. He quit as executive director of Hotel Shilla in March 1990, following the three-party merger, to work as a secretary for YS. So, it is not too long ago that he became his secretary. But his personal relationship with the president, however, dates all the way back to May 1983, when YS staged a hunger strike and Kim Ki-sop spent all his money to support the cause.

Kim Ki-sop is an ardent YS man, so ardent that when he was the Hotel Shilla manager, he videotaped various YS-related events and showed them to the hotel's PR team. In particular, he has a "close" relationship with Kim Hyon-chol, the president's second son. Kim Ki-sop is said to be a man of self-control who always finds work for himself.

Thus, since the men of President Kim's innermost circle took up their positions at the top echelons, changes have occurred in various aspects of the ANSP, the first change being that the director was barred from attending cabinet meetings. By order of President Kim, Kim Tok had to stay away from the new government's first cabinet meeting. Earlier, even at the ceremony in which new cabinet members received their letters of appointment from the president, the ANSP director was the last to receive his, a development marking a striking departure from a past precedence set by the successive governments. Considering the fact that the longer becomes the distance between an agency and the president, the weaker the influence of that agency, it was indeed a big change.

The second change was a cut in the authority of the ANSP city and provincial branch chiefs. Kim Tok, in his first directive as director, made clear that "city and provincial branch chiefs shall not attend any meetings and events of various types of outside organizations that have no direct connections with the original mission and functions of the ANSP." The instruction was noteworthy in that it imposed partial restrictions on "prior coordination" operations that had been part of the ANSP authority.

At the same time, it has been known that the agency discontinued the practice of wiretapping certain personalities. The ANSP, under the pretext of investigating communist activities, had been bugging telephone conversations of politicians, prominent activists as well as espionage suspects. Reportedly, however, eavesdropping that is not directly related to specific investigations has been discontinued. Perhaps for that reason, agency officials say jokingly, "We also can talk on the phone without worry now."

All these changes led to a new situation: Law enforcement authorities such as the public prosecutors and police—who had been most faithful to the ANSP—now appear to show less deference toward the agency. That is the very reason why ANSP officials, while intently following the changes, are feeling so uncomfortable these days.

An official of more than 20 years' service in the agency said: "Bad things from the old days such as covert political operations should be eliminated and the permissiveness for some agency officials evading the law should also be corrected. We agree that the agency should change. But those law enforcement agencies—which had been most familiar with the ANSP's situation, and most cooperative and faithful to it whenever something occurred—began turning their back on us as soon as they knew that the ANSP's influence is on the decline. It is even worse than at the time of the 26 October, 1979, incident."

ANSP personnel are in a mixed state of mind, tense and uneasy. It is because the top-level changes will inevitably entail further changes in personnel and jobs. The restrained atmosphere can be seen in their work attitude. After Kim Tok was installed as director, he tightened control to ensure that everything is done strictly in accordance with the office regulations. For instance, personnel are no longer allowed a free access to agency files. In the past, all ANSP personnel, regardless of their positions, were authorized to inspect various documents in the agency files. But no more, unless approved by the chief of the respective division.

By regulations, ANSP personnel are not authorized to take agency documents, including those relating to their assignments, out of the ANSP headquarters. Also, personnel and their cars are required to be searched physically when going through the main gate. Those regulations were observed but only perfunctorily in the past. The situation has changed now, however.

Currently, they are awaiting with apprehensive concerns a follow-up personnel reshuffle involving bureau and division chiefs. This is the reason why the climate in the agency is so uneasy. Their unanimous hope is that officials whose promotions were bypassed in the past for the sole reason that they did not belong to the TK group will be treated properly this time. At the same time, they are nervous about rumors that people losing their jobs in a sharp scaling-down of the DLP Secretariat will likely be appointed to middle-level posts in the ANSP.

Former ANSP Director Yi Sang-yeon carried out a surprise personnel reshuffle involving deputy bureau chiefs, a few days before stepping down in the "covert propaganda material incident" involving ANSP personnel, promoting several persons close to himself as deputy bureau chiefs in disregard of seniority and capability. But young ANSP officials refused to stand idly by and watch. They went to Yi Hyon-u, Yi Sang-yeon's successor, to protest and demand correction. As the result, the personnel action was withdrawn.

Some officials even say, "If people close to Kim Hyon-chol are appointed to responsible posts, we will not just stand by and watch." In the appointments of assistant directors, when people in the race failed to make it, those officials just refrained from making an issue of it. They are now hoping that while those in the agency who in the past received special favors unjustified by their abilities and those who caused troubles should be punished accordingly regardless of their positions, there should be, at the same time, no such things as former officials in

another agency are—upon recommendations from high quarters—appointed to responsible posts in the ANSP.

A senior presidential secretary at Chongwadae said that "I don't think that any ANSP reform will involve a reduction in force like large-scale dismissals." "However," he added, "the ANSP shall change in a direction that it will no longer engage in political operations as in the past but focus on the gathering of overseas, North Korea and industrial intelligence."

Burma

Paper Discusses U.S. Representatives' 'Positive' Views

BK2004143793 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 3 Apr 93 pp 2, 8

[Article: "Those who look, see; those who see, believe" by Ko Ko Lwin]

[Text] While visiting the Myanmar [Burma], members of the House of Representatives of America—Bill Archer and Nancy Johnson—met the leaders and various ministers of Myanmar as well as numerous commanders not to mention responsible officials concerned with economic matters, agriculture, law, and the National Convention. At these meetings, the two members of the House of Representatives were able to ask all the things they wanted to know without exception. The replies, too, were made cordially and candidly.

The explanations made by responsible officials included a wide-ranging number of topics beginning with the history of Myanmar, the political development, the economic reforms being taken, the measures being taken to combat the narcotic drugs as well as activities for border areas development to mention just a few. And all the explanations were fed up by reliable evidence.

One of the points made even before these discussions was that both members of the House of Representatives remarked upon the high rate of literacy of the population of Myanmar. That the rate of literacy was so high as to be practically unbelievable. They also remarked upon the presence of specialists and experts in the various regions. What's more they expressed their opinion that Myanmar in terms of the use of the English language and other foreign languages in relationship with other countries was far beyond what they had experienced in other developing countries. In fact they said this one point alone is very important for the development and progress of the country.

House of Representatives member Nancy Johnson, in commenting about economic reforms being made in this country, said that the concepts here were more modern and up-to-date than what they had experienced in the former communist Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, etc. I've heard that at the hearings of the House of Representatives Foreign Office Committee hearings the member of the House of Representatives testified that the concepts being put into effect in the Myanmar are far ahead of what may be seen in the former States of the Soviet Union. In so saying House of Representatives member Nancy Johnson based not only on personal experiences but also made her assessment of the strength of a written report to the Committee by Marian Segal, an American commercial agent who has been engaged in economic undertakings in Myanmar for a number of years.

House of Representatives member Nancy Johnson also pointed out that Americans should not neglect the kind of positive progress now being made here. And the kind of positive developments she pointed out was the progress being made in economic, social, and political matters and all the changes are occurring or increasing with momentum.

This is one of the points which cannot be accepted by those who are ill-disposed towards Myanmar. Such individuals of course wish to see only the worst kinds of things happening in Myanmar. Such kind of individual wishes to see Myanmar as the place where there are high prices and inflation and that it is extremely poor while at the same time in terms of political matters that a military regime has been imposing oppression indefinitely. According to the biased and prejudiced attitudes of such people, no country in which a person whom they favor cannot grab power is a country where democracy cannot exist. And from their way of thinking if it is not a country where there is no democracy there can be no reforms and development either economically or politically.

Such people have a mind-fix that if what they want and what they wish cannot be realized there can only be constraints and restrictions and oppressions.

Actually conditions today within Myanmar are very favorable. In fact they are far better than in a certain very large Eastern bloc country which has been receiving all kinds of aid and assistance from the Western bloc in terms of politics and economics. In spite of such aid and assistance this large country of the Eastern bloc is suffering a lot of problems including food, poverty, economic constraints, and political conditions which are practically at the edge of the abyss. If one is honest enough to see the truth for what it is, this particular point cannot be denied.

Hence, that is why these two members of the House of Representatives who came with open minds and open eyes to Myanmar were able to give their assessment in a frank and candid manner of the positive things which are being achieved in this country.

House of Representatives member Nancy Johnson was very interested in and discussed at length the background political development and history of Myanmar and the on-going process of the democratization being carried out. Responsible officials on their part also explained the background political history of Myanmar, the way in which the Tatmadaw [Defense Services] has constantly been involved in national affairs throughout history and also how the National Convention which is now being held is leading towards the formulation of an enduring constitution to ensure the long-term well-being of the nation as well as its people. And they further explained that this was the reason why the collective endeavor is being made at the National Convention. It is evident that Ms Nancy Johnson understood what was explained and she fully appreciated the aspirations and desires of the people of Myanmar. That is why she

commented in her assessment given at the hearings, "Their procedure is being used for drawing up a constitution is very interesting and particularly very impressive."

The opinions of those who have been misled into having the wrong impressions about Myanmar and the opinion of those who are opposed to Myanmar government are of course entirely different. What such people believe is that the government of Myanmar is using all the money it can earn to buy weapons so as to oppress the people. This is the kind of disinformation and fabrications and fraudulent allegations which are being passed out by the armed terrorist insurgent organizations. But no matter what such malicious things people say, the two House of Representatives members who made a thorough study of conditions and who personally went to the border regions development areas saw for themselves that the Tatmadaw, Tatmadawmen and family members of the Tatmadawmen actively participating in activities which are of direct benefit to the nationalities. And hence, this comment, "All their energies are being directed towards not only the development of the border regions but also towards agriculture, the construction of hospitals and clinics, and the building of schools." And she further said, "The way they are going about their border area development activities is really impressive. While we were in a particular region, we witnessed for ourselves the families of Tatmadawmen led by no less than the wife of a general being actively engaged in the rural areas teaching the rural people the basic elements of hygiene and health and disease prevention, and also numerous family matters. Basically, the fields of activities cover combating the threat of narcotic drugs, leadership in the rural affairs, and self-reliance activities. And all of these are concepts which are invaluable for the people."

The statement above was made by no less than a member of the House of Representatives of the American Congress and it was broadcast by the VOA [Voice of America]. What was said by the member of the House of Representatives would of course be unwelcome for those who are ill-disposed towards Myanmar. In the same way, those who have been misled and misguided into believing all the bad things about Myanmar will of course be surprised and amazed by what is now being said by a prestigious member of the House of Representatives who has actually seen the truth for herself. As for those foreign broadcasting stations which have been broadcasting everything which is likely to discredit Myanmar and every bit of disinformation which was passed to them, with the excuse that they have been merely reporting what they have heard. It is strange indeed that they are now silent about the positive things which are being said by these members of the House of Representatives of America. It does indeed seem true that such mass media which show so much bias and prejudice against Myanmar are without ears to hear all the good things about Myanmar; and broadcasting stations concerned too most probably don't have the mouths to broadcast all the good things which are being

said about Myanmar while they may also lack the eyes to see the truth, the positive truth, about conditions in Myanmar.

But no matter what, the truth cannot stay hidden and covered up for long. Those who are able to see things objectively, and those who are able to think for themselves and ponder and consider and weigh with objectivity and careful thought are bound to realize the truth and they will eventually become believers in the positive measures now being achieved in Myanmar. After all, members of the House of Representatives of America Charles Rangel, Bill Archer, and Ms Nancy Johnson have already visited Myanmar, looked around and seen for themselves the real conditions and the positive aspects and they have come to believe for themselves.

In this connection, Congressman Charles Rangel who also recently came to Myanmar saw for himself the steps being taken and the conditions existing regarding anti-narcotic drugs activities. He also had an opportunity to discuss at length with the personnel concerned. And his assessment and presentation when he got back to America have now borne fruit and one of the fruits is the recent cooperation between the government of Myanmar and the government of the United States in carrying out field sampling of opium yield. Due to the active cooperation of Myanmar government, the work which took nearly one month in some other countries was completed in a mere five days, including going to areas of the most difficult accessibility. American government officials who came on this project were very satisfied and impressed with the work and activities of Myanmar government personnel.

At first glance, it may seem to be a minor matter but an overview of the situation reveals a significant point in the relationship between Myanmar and America. Thinking along these lines, it shows that mutually beneficial cooperation would be of advantage to both nations. It is of course possible that there will be differences between Myanmar and America due to inherent differences in geography, historical background, and differences in concepts as well as differences in sense of priority. However, rather than dwell upon the differences we should take into consideration the things that could be done together in cooperation for mutual benefits and this includes the matter of dealing with the danger of narcotic drugs. This is the proper way of looking at it. Positive cooperation in the matter of combating narcotic drugs would surely be of advantage to both countries and cooperation in such a sphere of common purpose may only be regarded as a sound basis for mutually beneficial relationship.

However, we must not forget there are certain groups and certain individuals whose self-interests prevent them from following this line of thought. Such people have all along been supporting those who are antagonistic towards Myanmar and its people from the very beginning up to this day. Such groups and such individuals have invariably stood by the side of those who have

been committing the worst of atrocities and cruelties against the people, mining trains, massacring people, robbing and looting and raping.... Those who have been doing all these things have been the armed terrorist insurgents. And those who will continue to feel antagonistic towards Myanmar are such terrorist insurgents and their supporters who have been propagating all kinds of fabricated reports, disinformation and rumors designed to discredit Myanmar and its government. We must not forget that such elements will continue to attempt to throw a spanner into the improving relationships between the two countries; they will do everything they can to break up this kind of cordial and mutually beneficial relationship which can exist between Myanmar and America.

Whatever may be the case, those who can truly watch and look are bound to see the truth; and invariably those who are able to really see the genuine truth will come to believe it. As the number of those who see and realize the truth increase in number the fabricated reports and the fraudulent allegations as well as the rumour-mongering are bound to gradually lose their effect and eventually will disappear in the light of genuine truth.

Health Delegation Leaves for PRC Visit

*BK1904141893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 19 Apr 93*

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Colonel Than Zin, deputy minister of health, left by air this afternoon for a goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China to study health activities from 19 to 30 April.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon [Rangoon] airport by PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Feng and departmental officials from the Health Ministry.

The Myanmar delegation comprises five members—Dr. Myo Thein, deputy director general from the Department of Medical Research; Dr. Aung Naing, director of Traditional Medicine Department; Dr. Myint Htay, deputy director for foreign relations, Ministry of Health; Dr. Myo Thet Tun, assistant director from the Ministry of Health; and Captain Zaw Oo Maung, assistant director.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Singaporean Senior Minister Calls on Sultan

BK1904115393 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 19 Apr 93

[Text] Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, who is in Brunei, met Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah this afternoon at the Istana Nurul Iman [Nurul Iman Palace]. Mr. Lee will also have meetings with Brunei's foreign and finance ministers, government officials, and businessmen. The senior minister will be in Brunei for four days. [Words indistinct]

are Mrs. Lee, Minister for Information and the Arts Brigadier General George Yeo, and Minister of State for National Development Mr. Lim Heng Kiang.

Malaysia

U.S., EC Energy Tax Proposal Criticized

*BK2004124293 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in English 0800 GMT 20 Apr 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Again, the developed countries have resorted to unfair practice in what they claim are efforts to safeguard the environment. The United States and the European Community, EC, have proposed the energy tax on petroleum. This means oil of certain countries, like Malaysia, would have to pay tax for crude oil exports to these countries. Naturally, oil-producing countries are concerned.

The tax is yet another ploy to place obstacles in the way of free trade. A tax on petroleum imports into those countries amount to discrimination against petroleum. It is a very sure thing that what is going to come out of this—it is, in fact, a revenue for the U.S. and the EC. If these countries who want to protect the environment, then they should not only focus on petroleum. What about the other energy sources? Other fuels such as coal, largely produced by the EC, also causes pollution. But coal has conveniently been ignored by the U.S. and the EC. Then where is the logic here?

Is it the environment they are concerned about, or is it really their coffers. Thus, in fact, oil producing countries tend to lose from such an energy tax on petroleum. For a raise in production costs in the process, the revenue from oil production would be reduced. If the U.S. or the EC are really sincere about penalizing polluting fuel, why does the tax not involve coal? In spite of any tax whatsoever, the EC has given so many subsidies to coal production and in this way contributed to polluting the environment.

Even if in question regarding forests, the developed countries only choose to focus on tropical timber. They have also objected indicating tropical timber producing countries, such as Malaysia, of indiscriminate logging. But the reality is that vast areas of temperate forests have been lost forever. The acreage of temperate timber in the world today is very much less than that of tropical timber. Campaigns to discourage export of tropical timber have been mounted by the so-called environmentalists which has led to a decline in export of tropical timber.

It has reduced national revenue and many people have lost their jobs in the industry. Western nations have also purposely ignored facts and figures provided on tropical

timber. It is clear that developed countries are only doing this to safeguard their markets, [but] are still losing their competitive edge.

The proposed energy tax also goes against the principle of free trade under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT]. Therefore, it is hardly surprising that the U.S. and the EC are the parties responsible in preventing a successful end to the GATT global trade talks. In view of these developments, it is important for oil producing countries to combine their resources to resist the energy tax on petroleum. This also goes for timber producing countries which must be relentless in their fight against the antitropical timber campaign. All this goes to show that developed countries do not match their words which they claim to be striving for a liberalized trade under their respective regional trade preference. But their actions suggest otherwise. The latest proposal is clear to developing countries to fight for their interest by coming together rather going it alone.

Minister: Economic Fundamentals Need Strengthening

BK2004044493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0325 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 20 (OANA—BERNAMA)—The Malaysian economy could withstand the uncertainties in the international economic environment by strengthening its economic fundamentals, Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Monday.

The thrust must always be to further enhance our economic fundamentals—growth with low inflation, high savings and investment rates, an ever-widening manufacturing base, and a modernised services sector, he said in a keynote address at a national management conference here.

He said the costly mistakes of some of the industrialised countries in allowing their economic fundamentals to be eroded through reckless spending and misguided short-term policies had demonstrated the path of economic management that we should never venture to take.

Even though the high growth path that the Malaysian economy had achieved over the past five years was something to be a proud of, Anwar said the economy required a consolidation of its fundamentals for long-term sustainability.

Growth will remain high in the coming years, but it is the pressure of rising prices that could erode the strength of our economic fundamentals, he said.

Malaysia's comparative low inflation by regional and international standards should not lead the people to contentment or a false sense of security, he said.

Anwar said the present vagaries and uncertainties in the international economic environment might even take a much serious form in the future.

Some have even predicted the demise of institutions of the Cold War period, including the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he added.

Despite the fact that GATT was aimed at setting a level playing field, he said the promoters of GATT were now striving for an edge over their competitors.

He added: the national governments of industrialised nations are presently preoccupied to assist their companies gain access to markets whereas they used to adopt a hands-off policy.

Our industries must be aware by now that they are not merely facing resources of multinational giants. Those entities are also backed at the same time by the powerful influence of their governments.

Minister Warns Australia on Negative News Reports

BK1504154393 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] Klang, Tues.—Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat today warned foreign broadcasting stations to stop airing adverse reports on Malaysia as it could strain relations with the country concerned.

He was referring to a misleading news bulletin from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) aired at 10 a.m. (Malaysian Time) [0200 GMT] today regarding a demonstration in Kota Baru last Saturday [10 April].

The bulletin monitored by the RTM [Radio Television Malaysia] Broadcasting Services Monitoring Centre here was brought to the minister's attention during his visit to the centre this morning.

Mohamed said the bulletin filed by one Malaysian Wong Puon Wah from Kota Baru did not portray the true picture of the illegal demonstration protesting against interference of the Sultan of Kelantan in politics.

"The report is incorrect, misleading, unfair, and aimed at confusing the people, especially those in other parts of the world," he told reporters after being briefed on the bulletin during his visit here.

Mohamed said he would discuss with Wisma Putra [the Ministry of Foreign Affairs] on the course of action, including lodging a protest to the Australian Government over such an irresponsible report.

Mohamed read out the recorded notes of the bulletin to the press.

The ABC report stated that thousands [figure as published] of demonstrators held a noisy rally outside the palace of the Sultan Ismail Petra in Kota Baru last Saturday demanding the ruler to stop interfering in politics.

The report, among other things, said: "They also carried placards supporting the claims by Tengku Ibrahim, the cousin of the Sultan, to the throne.

"A crowd of 5,000 loyalists stood nearby and the police, fearing trouble, tried to disperse the demonstrators by firing teargas.

"A couple of the demonstrators were later detained..."

Mohamed said: "See how wrong the report is.. there was no firing of teargas at all.. it is very misleading and uncalled for..."

"If the report is made by a Malaysian then it is unfair and aimed at discrediting the government.

"But if it is filed by an outsider it is understandable," he said clarifying that it was wrong to say the government was trying to dispose of the ruler to impose federal rule.

Cambodia

Spokesman Views KR Withdrawal From Phnom Penh

BK2104070593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Khieu Kanharit, spokesman of the Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC], gave a weekly news briefing this morning at Sakal I Hotel to national and international newsmen and representatives of various embassies in Cambodia.

Khieu Kanharit explained to newsmen about Khieu Samphan's accusation that he had left Phnom Penh because of a lack of security. Khieu Kanharit said that in fact that was not the cause. This is because if Khieu Samphan were concerned about his safety or afraid of being arrested by the SOC, he would have left alone. Therefore, the Khmer Rouge faction closed down its office and withdrew its personnel from Phnom Penh in such a hurry because it had a plan to launch large-scale offensives to destroy the elections.

Khieu Kanharit added that seeing through this Khmer Rouge plan, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, before leaving for North Korea, proposed that an SNC meeting be held in Beijing on 29 April. The SOC has sent a letter to the prince stressing that our party could not attend the meeting although we supported this good idea. Khieu Kanharit stressed: The cause is that our government officials are too busy launching an election campaign to take time out to go there. Moreover, during the past more than one year, we have seen no change in the Khmer Rouge's attitude. After leaving Phnom Penh, the Khmer Rouge made a statement emphasizing their intransigent stand. Therefore, the meeting in Beijing is useless and a waste of time and money. Another reason

is that since only the Khmer Rouge have withdrawn from the SNC, the SNC should continue its work with or without the Khmer Rouge.

Khieu Kanharit noted that the Khmer Rouge have continued their military activities in Kompong Speu and other provinces and that they might launch more large-scale offensives, including offensives against UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] forces. The SOC has currently intensified its defenses and given more support to our forces on the front line.

Khieu Kanharit also informed newsmen that the SOC Foreign Ministry had recently sent a letter to General John Sanderson proposing that UNTAC clearly stipulate the position of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] in light of the Khmer Rouge offensives. This was because in the past whenever the Khmer Rouge attacked us, UNTAC and a number of opportunist parties accused us of being the violators. Since the signing of the Paris agreement, the Khmer Rouge have killed 408 persons, wounded 788, taken away 136 families totaling (?218) persons, (?killed) 213 CPAF soldiers, wounded 272 CPAF soldiers, and taken away 103 others. The fate of those captured is unknown. Moreover, 15 SOC militiamen were killed and 26 others wounded; 19 policemen were killed and 25 others wounded; and eight villages were seized by the Khmer Rouge.

Asked with what parties the SOC would form the government, Khieu Kanharit said this matter depends on the results of the elections. However, to have a stable government, we should have a good alliance with the other parties.

NADK Denies Attacking UNTAC in Kompong Speu

BK2104071593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Apr 93

[“Denial of the spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea concerning an accusation that the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea has attacked UNTAC forces at Aoral Thmei village in Kompong Speu Province”; dated 20 April—read by announcer]

[Text] I. On 16 April 1993, Eric Falt, spokesman of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], made a slanderous statement charging that the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] had attacked Aoral Thmei village in Kompong Speu Province, killing a Bulgarian national. This is the usual slanderous language that Eric Falt often hurls at other people.

II. The NADK spokesman totally and vehemently rejects this slanderous charge, made intentionally with a bad political aim.

III. All the big and small military, political, and diplomatic events, the fascist terrorist acts, assassinations of

the Cambodian people and members of various political parties, and the shooting and killing of UNTAC personnel have taken place because UNTAC and the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors and their puppets have not implemented the Paris agreement.

A. They have not allowed the Supreme National Council [SNC] to play any role.

B. They have not verified the Yuon presence, allowing old Yuon to stay on and new Yuon to keep flowing in.

C. UNTAC has not cooperated with the SNC to control the five key ministries.

D. UNTAC, the Yuon, and the puppets have launched military operations against the Cambodian people and Democratic Kampuchean forces in an attempt to seize control over the people and smash all the resistance forces on many battlefields. Those operations are still continuing.

IV. The Yuon aggressors and their puppets have not thought about their own deeds. They have continued to commit aggression against and to occupy Cambodia and oppress and threaten the Cambodian people. UNTAC has not paid any attention to Cambodia's peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Eric Falt has not uttered a word about this. Now UNTAC has come to realize how much the Cambodian people detest it.

UNTAC has not come to seek peace for Cambodia. It has come to help the Yuon kill Cambodia's peace, independence, and sovereignty, thereby killing the Cambodian nation, people, and race. UNTAC and Eric Falt should take a look at their own deeds and not just make accusations against others.

V. This is the outcome of UNTAC's policy and acts against the Cambodian nation and people. Seventeen months have elapsed, but UNTAC's leaders have not verified the Yuon's presence. They have not given any role to the SNC nor cooperated with the SNC in controlling the five ministries. On the contrary, UNTAC leaders have allowed the Yuon and their puppets to massacre the Cambodian people and members of various political parties at will. All this has invoked great anger from the Cambodian people both inside and outside the country.

For the past 14 years, the Yuon and their puppets have massacred and bled the Cambodian people white. In addition, UNTAC has cooperated with the Yuon.

VI. The NADK stresses: to settle the complex problems, particularly the problem of insecurity that has taken place unceasingly, UNTAC leaders and Eric Falt must keep their mouths shut. Do not make accusations against others. Doing so cannot solve any problems. UNTAC and Eric Falt must see through themselves, the Yuon and Yuon puppets, and to the root cause of the current problems in Cambodia.

The NADK and Cambodian people understand that to settle all problems in Cambodia successfully, UNTAC's leaders must implement the Paris agreement correctly, squarely, and comprehensively. But if UNTAC's leaders stubbornly refuse to implement the Paris agreement and continue to collude with the Yuon and their puppets in their plan to kill the Cambodian nation and people, the Cambodian people will remain unhappy and more complex problems will arise.

[Dated] 20 April

[Signed] The spokesman of the NADK

Report Claims Vietnamese Land Seizure in Takeo

BK2104030893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] According to a report from Takeo Province, the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] are continuing to dig a long canal to grab many kilometers of Cambodian territory along the border in Takeo Province.

This matter is known to Cambodian people in general, especially those living along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border. This is why the Cambodian people are very angry with and have been opposing the Yuon aggressors, expansionists, annexationists, and race exterminators for the past 14 years.

The people said that the Yuon have done anything at will because UNTAC has failed to implement the Paris agreement.

It is clearly stated in the Paris agreement that there should be a verification of the total withdrawal of the Yuon aggressor forces and their nonreturn in whatever form. The Paris agreement requires the abolition of all treaties or agreements signed between the Yuon and their puppets. But this is useless. The rule is on paper only; the UNTAC leaders have not implemented it. On the contrary, they have allowed the Yuon to do anything at will and even colluded with the latter.

The people said that UNTAC is good for nothing. Since its arrival in Cambodia, the Yuon have grabbed almost all Cambodian territory. They have said that if UNTAC stays a little longer, the Cambodians will no longer have any plots of land to live on.

'Sources': People Revolt Against Vietnamese in Kandal

BK2004055993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Apr 93

[Excerpt] Sources say that in early April, 200 people, including Phnom Penh puppet soldiers, revolted and attacked hidden Vietnamese elements disguised as brick kiln workers in Prek Reang Commune, Kandal Province.

The reports say that the people taking part in the attack against the Vietnamese were from Prek Reang, Samnangh, and Thmei communes, and a number of Cambodian soldiers. The reports say that the people do know that the Vietnamese disguising themselves as brick kiln workers are all hidden Vietnamese troops who have hidden a lot of weapons and ammunition at the place they stay.

The reports further say that people in this area have been victims of successive attacks and robbery by these Vietnamese. The people are up to their necks with anger against these Vietnamese. This is why when the Cambodian people are vigorously attacking the Vietnamese everywhere, people in Prek Reang, Samnangh, and Thmei communes, in collaboration with a number of Cambodian soldiers, revolted and attacked these hidden Vietnamese elements at the brick kiln in Prek Reang.

The reports say that the people burned down all the houses of these Vietnamese and recovered over 10 weapons and a number of hand grenades. [passage omitted]

FUNCINPEC Claims Party Harassed During Campaign

BK1704052093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0502 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 17 (AFP)—Cambodia's largest opposition party, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] said Saturday that its campaign for next month's elections was being hampered by assassinations, harassment and intimidation. FUNCINPEC, loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said two party members have been murdered this month and that voters were stopped from attending a rally in Takeo Province on Thursday.

The party charged in a statement that on April 7, the day the campaign officially began, a Phnom Penh government Cambodian People's Party (CPP) representative and an accomplice shot and killed the head of the FUNCINPEC office in southwestern Koh Kong Province. The week before, FUNCINPEC said, one of its active members in eastern Kompong Cham Province was shot dead by four government militiamen.

In addition, FUNCINPEC said government roadblocks prevented people from attending the rally in Takeo, and that local businessmen were pressured by government authorities not to rent the party loudspeakers. "For a period of time during the rally, (government) representatives broadcast, as loud as possible, a virulent speech by Prime Minister Hun Sen over loudspeakers located on a property adjacent to the meeting site in an attempt to drown out proceedings at the FUNCINPEC rally," the statement said.

FUNCINPEC was expecting 8,000 people at the rally, but U.N. officials said only about 4,000 turned up. U.N.

officials confirmed some of the FUNCINPEC assertions, but the assassinations could not be immediately verified.

However, the United Nations, attempting to hold an election May 23-27, has officially said the campaign was off to a good start, with a U.N. spokesman saying Thursday that no cases of harassment or intimidation had been reported. "It appears that thousands of Cambodians throughout the country are peacefully engaging in multi-party activities without violence or clashes," spokesman Eric Berman said. About 200 meetings and political rallies have been held in various provinces since April 7, Berman said.

Government Leaders Speak During New Year Celebration

Chea Sim Speaks at Celebration

BK1904084193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] During our Cambodian people's traditional new year, on the morning of 15 April, His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, and his wife, accompanied by H.E. Sim Ka, chairman of the Phnom Penh city people's committee, and many other officials, went to celebrate the new year with people and Buddhist disciples and pay respects to monks at Vat Tang Roneam Monastery in Prateah Lang Commune, Dangkao District, Phnom Penh city.

On this occasion, H.E. Chairman Chea Sim talked to the people, Buddhist followers, and monks about the current situation in Cambodia, particularly during the election campaign. He said the Khmer Rouge party is not among the 20 parties taking part in the election; however, through their two close allies—namely the parties of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and of Son Sann—they still work together in carrying out a strategic maneuver to topple the CPP and the SOC [State of Cambodia] Government. This tripartite alliance has used every means to create subversion, such as carrying out armed robbery and bomb attacks, burning houses, sabotaging the riel currency, killing various leading officials, and so on, with the aim of creating confusion among the people and affecting the government's leadership. This is in order to achieve their strategic goal and bring back the genocidal regime to Cambodia. He recalled the all-around revival of society and the nation, particularly the rights and freedom of the people to earn their living, to travel, and to practice traditional customs of various ethnic groups, which is the aspiration of our people.

H.E. Chea Sim further said that during the initial difficult period, no parties showed their faces to assist and work with our people; the CPP was the only party

sharing weal and woe and overcoming obstacles until making numerous sacrifices to liberate the people being massacred by the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime. Later, the CPP further developed society and the nation in every field. More importantly, it has thwarted the return of the genocidal disaster and has defended and ensured stability in the Cambodian people's lives.

He further stressed that on this point, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and father of the nation, has given appropriate justice to the CPP. H.E. Chea Sim also said that although the Khmer Rouge and their allies in the tripartite alliance—namely FUNCINPEC and Son Sann—still have perfidious maneuvers, the CPP is exercising patience in correctly abiding by the agreement in order to achieve peace and national reconciliation.

H.E. Chea Sim stressed that for our people, who are the masters of the country's destiny, they should be able to analyze and exercise judgment before voting; otherwise, a wrong decision could pave the way for the genocidal Pol Pot regime to return to power again and the Cambodian people will again be victims of the killing fields.

Finally, H.E. Chairman Chea Sim wished the people and Buddhist followers success and happiness always. On this occasion H.E. Chea Sim offered 2 million riel to the monks as a contribution for repairing and expanding the monastery, and other gifts. Afterward, he and his wife took part in the ceremony to offer food to monks with the people and Buddhist followers at Vat Tang Roneam Monastery.

Defense Minister Addresses Gathering

*BK2104072593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT
19 Apr 93*

[Text] A grand party to mark the beginning of the glorious traditional new year, the year of the cock, B.E. [Buddhist Era] 2537, was held at the Army Foreign Relations Department under the chairmanship of His Excellency [H.E.] General Tie Banh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, defense minister, and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

Also attending the party were representatives of the high-ranking officers from the three general departments of the Defense Ministry, officials and personnel from UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] forces, and liaison officers of the Mixed Military Working Group from the armies of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

Speaking to national and international guests, H.E. Gen. Tie Banh underlined the efforts to surmount all obstacles made by the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF], which have restored and brought all-round

development to national society, adding that the CPAF has correctly implemented and is implementing the Paris agreement so as to move on toward a correct and free election, thus bringing genuine peace to the people. He said that vis-a-vis implementation of the agreement by the CPAF, the Khmer Rouge bandits have committed violations and all forms of sabotage. This has required the CPAF to exercise its right to self-defense to avoid the return of the genocidal regime.

The party proceeded in a joyous and intimate atmosphere.

Indonesia

Japanese Lawyers Offer Legal Aid to 'Comfort Women'

*OW1904141093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1356 GMT
19 Apr 93*

[Text] Jakarta, April 19 KYODO—A group of Japanese lawyers pledged Monday that they will offer legal aid to Indonesian women, who say they were coerced to provide sex to Japanese imperial troops during World War II, and help take the issue to court in Japan, a lawyer said Monday.

Five Japanese lawyers from the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, who arrived here Friday, interviewed seven Indonesian women who said they were forced to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during the wartime.

The five "will provide us with a list of Japanese lawyers who are committed to the issue and who would be willing to resolve it through litigation," Luhut Pangaribuan of the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (LBHI) said.

He said that LBHI is committed to helping the "comfort women" and other victims of Japanese troops here during World War II.

Sukmawati, one of seven women who say they are former comfort women, told reporters that during the Japanese occupation she was told by Japanese soldiers in Pangkal Pinang, Bangka Island, that other family members could face danger if she refused to go with them.

She refused to tell where she was taken, but said that she ended up providing sex to one Japanese soldier.

Another woman said she was taken to Jakarta from Rangkasbitung, West Java, by Japanese soldiers and that she was forced to provide sex to three Japanese soldiers. "I have never married because I feel disgraced."

When asked if she sought compensation, another woman said, "It is not simply a matter of compensation."

Akira Murayama, who led the Japanese lawyers, told reporters they came to Indonesia as members of the human rights committee of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations on a fact-finding mission in connection

with the association's plan to organize a symposium on war reparations in Japan in October.

He said the Federation cannot provide legal assistance but that its members may as individuals.

Last July, the Japanese Government confirmed its role in the recruitment of women from China, Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines and Indonesia for military brothels during World War II, but said it could not find evidence that they were forcibly taken.

Government To Collect Data on 'Comfort Women'

OW 2004091693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0848 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Jakarta, April 20 KYODO—The Indonesian Social Affairs Ministry will collect data on Indonesian women who were forced to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, local newspapers reported Tuesday.

Minister of Social Affairs Inten Suweno was quoted by the armed forces' newspaper ANGKATAN BERSENJATA as saying that her ministry cannot ignore such a social issue.

She admitted, however, that it will not be easy to assemble data on the women because it happened such a long time ago.

"It will require patience and diligence to unravel the number of Indonesians who were victims of sexual wrongdoing by Japanese occupation soldiers in Indonesia in World War II," she said.

Sufficient data need to be obtained to find the best way to resolve the issue, another newspaper quoted her as saying.

"Hopefully there can be talks between the Indonesian and Japanese Governments," the MERDEKA newspaper quoted her as saying.

In July last year, Japan acknowledged official involvement in the wartime recruiting of women from several Asian countries, including Indonesia, then a Dutch colony, to provide sex to Japanese imperial troops.

Saudi Arabia Agrees To Improve Cooperation

BK2004145393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Indonesia and Saudi Arabia have agreed to further improve their cooperation in the industrial trade, communications, skilled manpower, education, youth, information, and health sectors including cooperation between the cities of Jakarta and Jeddah. The agreement was reached at the conclusion of the Indonesia-Saudi Arabia joint economic and technical cooperation commission meeting held in Jakarta today. The Indonesian

delegation was headed by (Wisbur Loyes), director general of foreign economic relations in the Foreign Ministry, while the Saudi Arabian delegation was led by (Muhammed Ma'mun Khodib).

Regarding the trade sector, it was stated that the two countries agreed to send their respective trade missions which will exchange information concerning export commodities and participate in international trade expositions. It was also agreed that visas for business purposes will be speedily processed.

Regarding the employment sector, importance was placed on sending to Saudi Arabia skilled Indonesian manpower, such as doctors and nurses.

Laos

President Receives New Year Well-Wishers

BK1504141693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] On 13 April, President Nouhak Pounsavan of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, received good wishes on the occasion of the traditional Lao New Year, Buddhist Era 2536, from representatives of various ministries, ministry-level organizations, and government agencies in Vientiane. On this occasion the representatives presented flowers to and poured water mixed with perfume on President Nouhak Pounsavan wishing him and his family good health so that he will lead the Lao people to attain new and greater victories in conformity with the party policy in the renovation period.

In reply, the president urged representatives of ministries and organizations to improve their abilities and wisdom to contribute to the revolutionary cause in defending and building the nation during the restructuring period. He also wished them success in all their tasks throughout the new year.

Foreign Ministry Holds New Year Ceremony

BK1704091393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 15 April, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] organized a well-wishing ceremony in Vientiane for the traditional Lao New Year. The ceremony was attended by the minister, deputy ministers, and high-ranking cadres of the ministry along with members of diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations to the LPDR. (Saint Lerois), secretary general of the International Francophone Cultural and Technical Cooperation Organization, who is currently on an official visit to Laos, also attended the ceremony.

At the ceremony, Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat, on behalf of the Lao Government and people, delivered a speech extending greetings and best wishes to the guests. He wished the guests happiness and success in

performing their respective tasks. He also took the opportunity to thank the diplomats of friendly countries for their positive contributions in further promoting and expanding the friendly relations and cooperation between the LPDR and their respective countries.

Chang Yong-chun, ambassador of the DPRK to the LPDR, as dean of foreign diplomats, also delivered a speech on behalf of the members of attending diplomatic corps, thanking the foreign minister for his greetings and best wishes.

The ceremony continued with a Basi well-wishing process which was organized according to the fine tradition of Laos.

CPC Delegation Departs 15 Apr; Visit Summarized

BK1804054693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] The cadres' delegation of the Communist Party of China Central Committee [CPC CC], led by Comrade Wang Weicheng, member of the CPC CC and head of its policy research office, ended its official visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and returned home on the afternoon of 15 April.

The Chinese delegation arrived in Laos on 11 April for a visit at the invitation of the office of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC]. During its 4-day visit to Laos, the delegation paid a courtesy call on Comrade Khamphoui Keoboulapha, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, deputy prime minister, and chairman of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation; and met and worked with the office of the LPRP CC headed by Comrade Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the LPRP CC and head of its office. They also met and exchanged experiences with the LPRP CC Organization Board, the Committee for Planning and Cooperation, the party committee and the management of the Nam Ngum hydroelectric plant, and the party and administrative committees of Sisattanak District, and toured a number of ruins in Vientiane.

Philippines

Consulates in U.S. Receive 'Muslim Terrorists' Threats

HK2104021593 Quezon City MALAYA in English 21 Apr 93 p 1

[Report by Carlito Pablo]

[Text] The Philippine consulates in New York and Los Angeles are on alert because of threats made last month by suspected Muslim terrorists out to stage attacks against the United States and its allies right on American soil, sources said yesterday.

The sources said the missions reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs they received the threats over the telephone on March 19, about three weeks after the bombing of the Manhattan World Trade Center.

The Feb. 26 incident left five people dead and at least 1,000 injured.

"It was hard to believe that terrorists can strike right at the heart of New York and it would not be easy to simply dismiss the calls as mere pranks," one of the sources said.

Another source said: "The callers were said to have Middle Eastern accents and they said we are going to get hit because we are friends of the U.S."

The sources said the two missions were evacuated after the calls.

They added Philippine missions in the U.S. have been threatened before but not by international terrorists.

"During the Marcos administration, the missions were receiving threats from the anti-Marcos people. During (former President) Aquino's term, anti-Aquino Filipinos there were believed to be making the calls," one of the sources said.

Manila has advised the two missions to take extra precautionary measures.

Political, Security Situation Tops Ramos Agenda in PRC

HK2104033693 Quezon City MALAYA in English 21 Apr 93 p 3

[Report by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Arms buildup of countries in the Asia Pacific region and the territorial disputes over the Spratlys are two of the issues that President Ramos will discuss with Chinese leaders when he goes to Beijing on a six-day state visit starting April 25.

Foreign Undersecretary Rodolfo Severino said the China visit is unique in the sense that the "political and security situation will play an important factor."

He said President Ramos will hold separate meetings with Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng and discuss "the arms buildup not only in China but in some countries in the region."

The arms buildup of China, with a population of 1.2 billion, has worried neighboring countries especially with the reduction of U.S. forces in the region brought about by the closure of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

On the Spratly islands conflict, which involves six governments including China and the Philippines, Severino said, both parties are expected to reaffirm their adherence to peaceful means in solving the problem.

The President will also ask the Chinese leaders for their views on the withdrawal of North Korea from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty which has caused anxiety in the region.

China is considered as one of the few countries listened to by the intransigent North Korean leader Kim Il Sung.

The President will also inquire about "directions of U.S.-Sino relations," Severino said.

There has been tension between China and the U.S. because some U.S. officials are linking human rights issues with the granting of the "most favored nation" status to China as well as its readmission to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs.

Severino added that the President will seek assurance from Chinese leaders that the 100,000 Filipino workers in Hong Kong will not be displaced when the now-British colony reverts to China in 1997.

Severino said the President's China visit will be an occasion to learn about how they have transformed their villages into productive economic units as well as their successful export processing zones.

Aside from consultation on political matters, it will also be an occasion to promote trade and investment, Severino said.

Trade officials will sign two agreements—the 1993 RP-PROC [Republic of the Philippines-People's Republic of China] Trade Protocol and the Expansion of the RP-PROC Technical and Cooperation Agreement.

The President's private sector delegation is also expected to sign some 10 agreements with its Chinese counterpart.

During the visit, the President will be visiting the industrial centers in Shanghai and Guangzhou including a shipyard and an institute on laser science.

NDF Wants Third Party in Peace Talks With Government

HK2104034293 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 21 Apr 93 p 3

[Report by Juliet M. Labog]

[Text] The communist-led National Democratic Front [NDF] yesterday said it is ready to resume peace talks with the government but would insist on having an international mediator like that granted to the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front.

NDF Vice Chairman Luis Jalandoni, in a telephone interview from his base in Utrecht, the Netherlands, also said his group will push for the holding of the talks in Geneva or Tokyo.

In a related development, Speaker Jose de Venecia said he was sending Rep. Eduardo Ermita and Rep. Nur Jaafar to Karachi, Pakistan, to immediately confer with

MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] Chairman Nur Misuari on the venue of the formal peace talks with the Muslim rebels.

Jalandoni said the NDF was suggesting that third-party mediation in the talks could be provided by the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM], the European Parliament or the United Nations.

The NAM is an association of over 100 countries, mostly from the Third World. On the other hand, the European Parliament supported previous peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the NDF.

Jalandoni said it was now appropriate for the government to resume talks with the underground Left after gaining momentum in its peace efforts with the conclusion of exploratory talks with the MNLF in Jakarta last week.

"There is only one thing that could make the peace process move and that is for the government to give its response. He (President Ramos) has only to make a phone call or use the fax to tell us his decision," he said.

"We are still waiting for the official response from Manila. But for us, we still prefer Geneva or Japan," Jalandoni said. Jalandoni was reacting to Malacanang statements that the government would agree to the resumption of talks with the NDF in Hong Kong. It ruled out Geneva and Tokyo, saying either of them will entail more expenses.

But Jalandoni said Geneva or Tokyo would be "more appropriate and advantageous for both sides" since the "political sponsorship by the (host) governments or political parties" would give "greater dignity and seriousness" to the peace process. He cited the MNLF experience as a precedent in peace negotiations.

"Kung sa MNLF may [If in the case of MNLF, there was a] third inter-government organization, like the OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference) which has been allowed to participate, that means that the position of the NDF for the participation of a third party would also be important and should be considered by the government," he said.

The government has allowed the OIC to participate in the formal peace talks with the MNLF in June, although officials have tried to explain the influential organization's role as only that of an observer.

The NDF, an umbrella group of 12 Marxist groups waging over 20 years of armed insurgency against the government, was the first rebel group approached by government to consider peace. Its leaders held exploratory talks with the President's emissary, Tarlac Rep. Jose Yap, in The Hague, the Netherlands, in September last year. The peace process has been stalled since then over unresolved issues of venue, mediation, and agenda.

Meanwhile, De Venecia said Ermita and Jaafar would be leaving for Pakistan where the 42-member OIC is

meeting from April 24 to 29. "I authorized them to go to Pakistan for the OIC meeting. I think they will decide there where to hold the (formal) peace talks," he told House reporters. The Speaker was earlier briefed by Ermita and Jaafar on the results of the Jakarta talks.

The MNLF is enjoying an observer status in the OIC ministerial meeting. The organization has listed the Muslim problem in the Southern Philippines as item No. 44 on its agenda.

Foreign affairs officials have been lobbying to OIC member-states to drop the item from the agenda, but sources said the OIC, after 20 years of inaction on the Muslim problem here, is finally going to tackle it in Pakistan.

Thailand

Trade Negotiators 'Frantically' Seek U.S. Talks

BK2104021393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Apr 93 pp B1, B2

[Text] As the April 30 deadline nears, Thai trade negotiators are frantically seeking a second round of bilateral negotiations with their American counterparts to get Thailand off the list of countries liable for US trade retaliation.

After having been on the US priority foreign country watchlist for the last three years, Thai officials fear that another spot on the PFC list would bring about a real retaliation.

Such retaliation would come in the form of reduced trade privileges under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and in higher tariffs on Thai exports, sapping their price competitiveness in the US market.

To eschew this scenario, Commerce Ministry officials recently went to Washington to urge American policymakers to ease their grip on Thailand's trade status.

According to confidential cable traffic from Thai officials based in Washington, two factors that will determine Thailand's fate as a US trade partner and long-standing beneficiary of US aid are the results of a senate subcommittee meeting and an interagency meeting of the Trade Policy Review Group (TPRG).

The Senate subcommittee hearing transpired on April 19, when American lobbyists made arguments both in support and against Thailand's most recent effort in enforcing intellectual property rights.

A dramatic raid on Super Peacock, a major cassette tape pirate, is said in the cable to have "softened" the stance of many American private sector representatives and the USTR [U.S. Trade Representative.]

Similar decisive enforcement actions on copyrights pirates will have to be taken during the next 10 days if Thailand is to have any chance of avoiding trade retaliation.

"For the US side to be satisfied, our effort at enforcing intellectual property protection must be abundantly clear and decisive," said a senior Thai official based in Washington.

The official added that the TPRG meeting on April 22 will be crucial in determining the tone and scope of US assessment of Thailand's protection effort. The inter-agency TPRG members include representatives from the USTR office, the State Department, Commerce, Treasury and Labour Departments.

If the TPRG meeting yields a favourable conclusion on Thailand's intellectual property protection efforts, there may be a chance that a second round of bilateral negotiations could take place.

New Regulation Targets Copyright Violations

BK2104140493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon today signed ministerial Announcement No. 94 governing the import and export of merchandise. The announcement contains four regulations aimed at suppressing the violation of copyrights of music cassettes, videotapes, and compact discs.

The announcement says: 1. Official permission is required for importing tools and equipment used for recording music cassettes, videotapes, and compact discs. 2. Official permission is required for exporting recorded music cassettes, videotapes, and compact discs. 3. Application for import and export permission must be carried out in accordance with the regulations issued by the Commerce Ministry. 4. The commerce minister is authorized to enforce this announcement.

The commerce minister also today issued an announcement of the Central Price Fixing and Antimonopoly Committee on control of prices of audiotapes, compact discs, and videotapes. The announcement is published in the Royal Gazette and becomes effective tomorrow.

Prime Minister Urges Legal Copyright Use

BK2104022993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] About 200,000 pirated videotapes were burned in a big bonfire at Samsen fire station yesterday to demonstrate Thailand's heavy handedness against intellectual property right violations.

The pirated tapes of Hollywood movies were presented to Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at Government House

yesterday by the president of the Cassette Tape and Gramophone Record Association of Thailand, Charoenchai Wangarayatham.

The tapes which were said to be illegally produced by association members were sent to the fire station to be destroyed.

The prime minister told reporters later that he believed Thailand was now heading on the right track, especially in the matter concerning the copyright.

He said the association had made the right decision to comply with the rules which he believes will bring many benefits to the nation.

He urged the association to try to negotiate for the copyrights which would be very good for the country in the long term.

"We must do everything in accordance with the law and get recognition from other countries," Mr Chuan said.

King Receives PRC's Qian Qichen

BK2104122793 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 20 Apr 93 p 4

[Text] His Majesty the King granted an audience to Qian Qichen, Chinese vice prime minister and foreign minister, and his delegation yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, Qian Qichen first of all conveyed to the king cordial greetings from Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Li Peng. The king also asked Qian Qichen to pass on his cordial greetings and best wishes to President Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Li Peng.

Qian Qichen said that friendly relations between China and Thailand has been developed under the personal concern of the king and other members of the royal family. The friendly visits to China by the crown prince and Princess Sirinthon had contributed a lot to this. His Majesty the King said they were warmly received by the Chinese Government and people during their visits to China. Their visits to China were conducive to the regional and international peace.

During the meeting, His Majesty the King and Qian Qichen held cordial discussions on how to further develop the Sino-Thai relations, to maintain regional peace and stability, and to promote regional economic cooperation.

Border Meeting With Malaysia Focuses on Free Movement

BK1604021993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Apr 93 p 6

[Text] Freedom of movement for Thai-Malaysian border residents is a main aim of bilateral discussions which began yesterday, according to Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Pracha Khuna-kasam.

Border demarcation and the issue of border passes are the main topics for discussion by the Committee to Review Border Cooperation (CRBC), said Mr Pracha.

"The meeting will mainly focus on these problems as we want the citizens of both countries to be able to cross the border more comfortably and freely," he said shortly after the start of the two days of talks.

Thailand plans to issue a new standard border pass for all provinces bordering Malaysia, he said.

Mr Pracha is heading the Thai delegation at the first meeting of the CRBC, which was set up under a resolution adopted by the fifth Thai-Malay Joint Commission in Langawi, northern Malaysia, in mid-February this year.

Malaysia's delegation is led by foreign ministry secretary-general Ahmad Kamil Jaafar.

The meeting is considering ways to remove obstacles to various aspects of border cooperation. It is also expected to come up with suggestions and agenda items for the next meeting of the joint commission in June, said Mr Pracha.

Smuggling is being discussed at the current meeting, with the Malaysian side being instructed by its government to "cooperate with Thailand" in the search for a solution he said.

Time limitations mean disputes over fishing rights may not be addressed, he said.

Malaysian Wall To Deter Smuggling Near Border

BK1804014693 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Apr 93 p A2

[By Kunchada Chaphiphat]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur intends building a new wall closer to the border with Thailand at Padang Besar to deter smuggling, Malaysian Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Kamil Jaafar announced.

Kamil said the new wall would dispel the belief that the space between the wall on the Thai side and the present wall, located further back on Malaysian soil, was a "no man's land" when in fact it was Malaysian territory.

The Malaysian government has in the past been reluctant to agree to Thailand's repeated requests that they build a new wall closer to the actual frontier.

The so-called no man's land between Songkhla province and Perlis state in Malaysia has become a haven for smugglers from both nations and a source of conflict between local authorities. Thai officials have often been accused of encroaching on Malaysian soil without advance warning when in pursuit of smugglers who cleverly escaped into the "grey area".

A senior Thai official welcomed the Malaysian decision and said the new wall would make the smuggling more difficult.

It was however unclear whether the old wall would be dismantled or when the construction of the new one would start.

"The Malaysians have just informed us of the planned construction, but it is up to them when to start the work," he said.

Kamil announced the move on Friday after the two-day first meeting of the Committee to Review Border Cooperation in Bangkok. He headed the Malaysian team on the committee which was set up last year by the ministerial-level Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission.

Kamil said Malaysia fully cooperates with Thai authorities on the question of smuggling and had asked that Thai officials render the same level of assistance on the question of aggression and intrusion.

He said he was satisfied with the discussions, even though there had been no tangible outcome.

"Obviously, there are a lot of things to be worked and by the time we meet again in June we will be able to record some progress," he said.

Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Pracha Khunakasem who headed the Thai delegation, said both sides agreed to speed up border demarcation. More than 60 per cent of the frontier had already been delineated.

The troubled spots left unmarked included Padang Besar Railway Station and a stretch between Narathiwat and Kelantan State—between border markers 69 and 70.

The Land Boundary Committee would be asked to settle these grey areas and report to the next meeting of the ministerial committee in June.

Pracha said both sides also agreed to prepare a new Standard Operating Procedure formula which local officials and people on both sides of the border would follow. Existing regulations involving traffic systems, immigration procedures and custom services varied from province to province on the Thai side and from state to state in Malaysia.

A Thai source said both sides also agreed to amend border pass regulations to allow holders to travel further than 25 km across the border and to review the passes very six months instead of every month or two as currently practised.

He said the Thai side has proposed draft guidelines for consideration by Kuala Lumpur.

The committee hoped to meet for the second time to review the progress before the sixth meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission.

Kamil said, "we are looking at measures where we can develop greater cooperation along the common border. These are practical steps we are taking."

Loggers: Timber Prices Up Due to Closure of Burma Border

BK1704033793 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
17 Apr 93 p B2

[Text] Burmese logs cut for use in Thailand have piled up across the border, but cannot be transported into Thailand due to the closure of all border crossings by the Thai government, complain loggers.

They also warned that price of timber in the Thai market will shoot up even higher if the matter is not tackled soon.

According to a source in the logging industry, more than 20 loggers, who have signed a contract with the Rangoon government, have been seriously hurt since they cannot sell their logs in Thailand.

The Thai government has closed the border passes leading to Burma for over six months due to national security reasons.

As a result, domestic price of timber has already increased by more than 60 per cent, since imported timber available in the market today comes only from Malaysia.

However, the price will go even higher, if the crossings are not opened soon, claimed the same source.

"The government is very slow at opening these border points even if they know that wood and logs are highly in demand. They just sit still, doing nothing. By the end of 1993 when the, Rangoon government terminates the logging concession. It is expected that several Thai private investors will lose hundreds of millions baht," said the same source.

According to the source, the government has constantly failed in its policy to coordinate with both Cambodia or Rangoon governments. Most loggers believe that the government is not willing to solve the problem.

Meanwhile, the Rangoon government has proposed that Thai loggers move the wood by sea instead.

However, the proposal was dropped because a road through the Burmese rebel area would have been needed to be cut through to the seaport.

Thai investors had earlier consulted the concerned rebel group, but were strongly opposed due to fear that the road would be used by the Burmese military to penetrate the rebel-held area.

According to Sunthon Rasamilockset, chairman of Phra Pradaeng sawmill, Thailand expects to import at least 1

million cubic metres of timber from Burma each year with a value of Bt [Thai baht] 5,000-5,300 per cubic metre.

As a result, there will be definite effect on wood prices within the domestic market with the termination of the Burmese logging concession at the year's end.

Travel Agreement Reached at Border Meeting With Malaysia

BK1704023493 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Apr 93 p 6

[Text] Thailand and Malaysia have agreed to allow border pass holders to travel beyond the existing limit of 25 kilometres from the border.

The agreement was reached during a meeting of the Committee to Review Border Cooperation (CRBC) in Bangkok yesterday.

Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary Pracha Khunakasam said local people would now be able to cross the border more conveniently and it would help promote tourism.

Mr Pracha said the two sides had still to discuss how much further travellers would be allowed into each other's countries.

He said the meeting also agreed to speed up the demarcation of the border which is now about 60 per cent complete.

Only the stretch between Kelantan State and the Andaman Sea, a distance of around 72 kilometres, and some trouble spots such as Padang Basar Railway Station have yet to be marked, he said.

The disputed demarcation area is between border markers 69 and 70 in Narathiwat Province.

The Land Boundary Committee will be in charge of seeking a solution to the problem and reporting to the meeting of the Joint Commission in June.

Mr Pracha said Thailand and Malaysia would also draft a Standard Operating Procedure formulation to be jointly practiced by the local authorities in the two countries.

The formulation will iron out differences in Thai and Malaysian laws concerning traffic systems, immigration procedures and customs services.

"It will be easily understood by local officials and the people of the two countries," he said.

Mr Pracha said the Thai delegation had proposed draft guidelines for further consideration by Kuala Lumpur.

It also proposed several promotion plans for cooperation in trade, public health and transport and communications.

Inflation, Social Unrest Threaten PRC Economic Boom

BK2104052193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Apr 93 p A6

[Editorial: "China Has To Control Inflation To Prevent Social Unrest"]

[Text] China is losing its grip on the country's economic growth. Just one month after Premier Li Peng told Parliament the economy would grow by eight to nine per cent this year, down from last year's 12.8 per cent, the State Statistical Bureau announced on Monday that Gross Domestic Product powered ahead at a year-on-year 14.1 per cent growth in the first quarter.

The rise was accompanied by the worst quarterly inflation figures since 1988. National inflation grew year-on-year 8.6 per cent in the first quarter, while the urban rate grew by 15.7 per cent in 35 large and medium-sized cities. While Chinese leaders continue to paint a favourable picture of the economy, there are clear signs of overheating.

Chinese paramount leader Deng Xiaoping has urged the Chinese people to seize the opportunity and be bold with economic reforms. In a country where the prevailing political mood is more important than the reality of the market, that's all the encouragement the Chinese wanted.

Local governments have been directly investing in office buildings, shopping malls, factories and other fixed assets. Fixed asset investment by state-owned companies grew by a staggering 70.7 per cent in the first quarter against the same period a year earlier. Also investment by China's localities grew by 80.9 per cent outpacing central investment by 37.6 per cent.

The construction boom despite the central government's calls for restraint has pushed the price of steel up by 137.5 per cent. There has been a massive increase in the money supply and a big jump in industrial output. Furthermore, the boom in building threatens to overwhelm China's antiquated infrastructure.

Inflation is now a big problem and even the government has said that it is shifting from being a potential threat to a real one. The question now is whether the Chinese authorities can control the economic boom.

Rapid economic expansion fuelled by capitalist-styled reforms has raised fears that China's economy may be spinning out of control. Rapid price increases in 1988 started panic-buying and worker discontent and they were among the factors that started the prodemocracy movement in 1989. The government responded to the unrest by rolling back the economic reforms with a three-year austerity programme.

If this trend continues, the economic growth for 1993 will look profoundly shaky. Chinese officials however have been quick to point out that conditions now are

different from that of 1988. They say that now there are more options for investing money and panic buying doesn't seem to be on the cards. Also, they claim that the supply of goods is still outstripping demand and incomes are keeping pace with inflation.

Officials add that the problems now are different than those of 1988, where shortages in energy and raw materials choked development growth and sparked high inflation. But there are doubts about those claims, especially in rural areas, home to about 800 million Chinese. They already earn far less than their city counterparts and disposable incomes are falling as prices for seeds, fertilizer and pesticides soar day-by-day. Clearly, history has shown that if their income is hurt, their patience is likely to run out.

The government has moved to ease the financial burdens on farmers but has yet to release inflationary pressures in the cities.

Unless the Chinese authorities in Beijing are able to exert control over the country's massive economic boom, there is a looming threat of great social unrest in China.

Cabinet Endorses Laos Cooperation Draft Agreement

*BK1904033793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
19 Apr 93 p 23*

[Text] The Cabinet endorsed the draft of an economic and trade cooperation agreement between the Board of Investment [BoI] and Laos' Investment Protection Committee. Under the draft proposed by the BoI Thailand and Laos agree to exchange all information on investment to boost investment flows between the two countries.

They will also exchange staff whose duties involve bilateral trade and encourage joint investments for mutual benefits.

Thailand will establish a training course on investment promotion for the Laotian staff.

The agreement will be effective for two years, after which an extension will be discussed.

Cabinet Approves Opening New Embassy in Chile

BK2104093093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] The cabinet yesterday approved a proposal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to set up a Royal Thai Embassy in Santiago, Chile. Chile is considered a country with good political status and well-managed economy in South America. The country promotes exports and foreign investment. Chile is also interested in economic cooperation with Asia and the Pacific. It is

now a member of (PECC) [Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference] and has also applied for APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] membership.

Thailand and Chile have established diplomatic relations since 29 October 1962. Chile has supported Thailand and ASEAN in international politics. Chile also wants to import Thai products. Thailand can also benefit from the tax free zone in northern Chile to be a manufacturing base for export items to be re-exported to other countries, such as Peru, Panama, Paraguay, and Colombia.

The setting up of the Royal Thai Embassy in Santiago, Chile, which is in the center of Latin America will help promote and strengthen relations between Thailand and Chile as well as with other countries in that region. The embassy will also promote politics, economics, and trading cooperation, and also respond to Chile which set up the embassy in Bangkok since July 1981.

Paper Criticizes Bhutanese 'Ethnic Cleansing'

*BK1904021793 Bangkok THE NATION in English
19 Apr 93 p A6*

[Editorial: "Ethnic cleansing in Bhutan must not go unnoticed"]

[Text] While TV images of the horrors of ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia fill our living rooms every night, a similar tragedy in the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan is going by relatively unnoticed by the world.

The government of Bhutan has declared more than 100,000 southern Bhutanese of Nepali origin, about one-sixth of its total population, to be illegal immigrants contrary to historical evidence. There is adequate proof that the ancestors of these people have been settled in Bhutan since the 17th century.

Lack of humanitarian relief However, since the imposition of the new citizenship act of 1985 thousands of these southern Bhutanese have been forcibly evicted from their homes and are now in six refugee camps in Nepal. These refugees were forced to pass through India and seek refuge in Nepal because of a lack of adequate security and humanitarian relief in India.

The eviction of these people continues today. The ethnic policy of the government has been to declare as many southern Bhutanese as possible to be illegal immigrants and evict them from the country as part of a systematic policy of racial discrimination and ethnic cleansing.

For the past two years, there has been an unprecedented influx of Bhutanese, largely women and children and including Bhutanese of non-Nepali stock, pouring into the refugee camps from different parts of Bhutan. The number of refugees has risen rapidly from a few hundred in early 1991 to more than 100,000 at the beginning of this year.

The people of Bhutan are not emigrating voluntarily as claimed by the government, but are instead victims of forced evictions. It is a common sight in the refugee camps to come across children and pregnant women dying due to hunger, disease, malnutrition and inadequate medical care. So far more than 1,500 refugees have died in Nepal after making the journey from Bhutan.

Stories of torture in jail or while in police custody of the southern Bhutanese have been well-documented by several international human rights organizations. Many of these victims are not able to lead normal lives because of psychological disorders. Also in the camps are numerous refugee children who had been living under inhumane conditions in Bhutan, deprived of their right to education and adequate health care.

This is, indeed, sad because on the one hand the government of Bhutan has ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child while on the other it is completely depriving them of their right to live in their country of birth.

Bilateral talks between Nepal and Bhutan to find a solution to stem the influx of refugees have ended in a deadlock because of the Thimpu government's insistence these people should be classified as "displaced persons" rather than as refugees.

Caught in a dilemma Kathmandu is now caught in a dilemma and has decided to halt the entry of Bhutanese refugees in order to internationalize the problem. As it is, these refugees have already imposed a heavy burden upon the Nepali economy with the government having to feed and care for over 100,000 of them. There is a finite limit to human kindness, especially when the host country finds it difficult to feed its own people first.

Mere debate and discussion will not resolve the human rights crisis in Bhutan. Firm and determined action is needed. It is surprising that the so-called advocates and champions of human rights and democracy are keeping quiet and instead just watch as the Bhutan tragedy goes from bad to worse.

The human rights situation in Bhutan is no less pathetic than the the former Yugoslavia, or in Burma.

The international community must not turn a blind eye to the ethnic cleansing occurring in the Himalayan kingdom.

The Bhutanese problem is urgent and international intervention is needed to arrive at a peaceful solution, where the people of Bhutan will be able to enjoy their basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Chuan Calls for Avoidance of 'Scapegoats' in Saudi Case

*BK1704031793 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Apr 93 p A3*

[Text] Police must not try to appease Saudi Arabia by arresting scapegoats in any of the unsolved criminal

cases involving Saudi nationals in Thailand, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said yesterday.

It is not easy for investigators to find enough evidence on which to arrest suspects, Chuan said, adding that police should be given more time.

"The problems have been dragging on for three years and the new government has spent only about six months handling the investigations," he said.

"Solving all the cases in a short time is not an easy job."

Chuan praised the Interior and Foreign ministries for having satisfactorily played their parts in the rejuvenated inquiries.

Thai-Saudi relations are only now slowly moving towards normalcy again after being severely strained by the stalled investigations in the unsolved murders of four Saudi embassy officials in 1989 and 1990 and the subsequent disappearance of a Saudi businessman.

Deputy Interior Minister Suthat Ngoenmuen yesterday said he believed all the Saudi cases would be solved during the term of the current government.

The investigations had progressed substantially, he said. Investigators will continue to gather more evidence and question all people suspected of being involved.

An Interior Ministry inquiry has blamed the murder of the Saudi embassy officials on foreign terrorists seeking revenge against Riyadh for the death of hundreds of pilgrims killed by Saudi security forces during a bloody riot in Mecca in 1987.

The disappearance of businessman Muhammad al-Ruwayli in February 1990, according to investigators, was related to the murder of the diplomats.

A senior police officer who investigated the murders faces criminal charges for allegedly abducting the businessman for questioning and then killing him.

In addition, the Thai government is under diplomatic pressure from Riyadh to wrap up the investigation into the disappearance of some of the stolen Saudi royal jewellery after it was recovered by Thai police in 1990.

Suthat yesterday said Interior Ministry Deputy Permanent Secretary Ari Wong-araya, chairman of the ministerial committee investigating the gem case, will give a progress report to Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan before he leads a goodwill mission to Saudi Arabia next week.

Also yesterday, Chuan said he had not received an official report on allegations that at least 10 people were suspected of being involved in the disappearance of the jewellery.

Vietnam

Commentary Views Outcome of Vessey Visit

*BK2104125093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 21 Apr 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] General John Vessey, special emissary of U.S. President Bill Clinton, has just concluded his visit to Vietnam for a full range of discussions with Vietnamese officials. Following is our editor's opinion on the matter:

Before the trip, General John Vessey and other senior officials had [words indistinct] from Vietnam's attitude toward the settlement of the MIA issue. Their reasoning was very simple as they received a document from Russia saying that Vietnam was still holding POW's. However, after two days in Vietnam on 18 and 19 April sharing important documents from the archives of the General Political Directorate of the Vietnam People's Army, General Vessey said further analysis was required on the Russian document.

He said: Information given to him by retired Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang was in conformity with information that his government has got, although there is no reason for him not to visit General Tran Van Quang. Meanwhile, the American newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES ran a story written by a historian and researcher on the POW issue in Southeast Asia saying that the Russian document contains inaccurate details. The story rejected the Russian document as groundless.

The writer [name indistinct] confirmed that there are no POW's in Vietnam. He said: The Russian document was clumsy and bore no practical details which did not conform to practical history.

Before returning home, General Vessey indicated that he would report immediately to President Clinton upon his arrival about all of these developments.

According to reliable American sources in Bangkok, Washington was satisfied with the (?first round) obtained in the cooperation between the United States and Vietnam in the settlement of the MIA issue.

Cambodia's Prince Chakkrapong Arrives for Visit

*BK1804152293 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT
18 Apr 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 18—Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, arrived here this afternoon for a working visit to Vietnam.

He was welcomed by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh, Minister of Heavy Industry Tran Lum, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan and other officials of Vietnamese concerned offices.

Representatives of the Cambodian embassy in Hanoi were also on hand.

Attends Talks

*BK1904160593 Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT
19 Apr 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 19—A Vietnamese Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh held talks here this morning with a delegation of the State of Cambodia led by Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia. Present on the Vietnamese side were also Tran Lum, minister of heavy industry, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, Tran Khai, vice president of the State Planning Commission, Vu Mong Giao, vice minister of finance, and others. On the Cambodian side were Chan Phin, minister of industry, Deputy Foreign Minister Sek Seta; Chiao Lau, vice minister of finance [name, title as received]; Chiao Lau, vice minister of tourism and aviation [name, title as received]; Tep Hen, and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Prince Norodom Chakkrapong reaffirmed the determination of the State of Cambodia to strictly implement the Paris agreement and to contribute to the holding of general elections as planned with a view to national concord and reconciliation and ultimately to the realisation of a peaceful, independent, neutral and non-aligned Cambodia having friendly relations with all countries in the world. For his part, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh affirmed Vietnam's consistent policy to strictly respect and seriously implement the provisions of the Paris agreement concerning Vietnam, support national concord and reconciliation in Cambodia and support the general elections as scheduled. He also expressed the hope that Cambodia would soon have peace and stability in order to build a prosperous and happy country.

Prince Norodom Chakkrapong strongly condemned the Democratic Kampuchea faction for undermining the Paris agreement, massacring Cambodians and Vietnamese residents in Cambodia, and incapacitating the United Nations Transitional Authority of Cambodia (UNTAC). He also affirmed the State of Cambodia's determination to take necessary measures to defend the Cambodian people and Vietnamese residents, and to help the latter earn their living normally in Cambodia. The talks took place in a warm atmosphere of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding. Also this afternoon, Prince N. Chakkrapong and his party were cordially received by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

Delegation Attends U.S. Joint Economic Seminar

*BK2004142993 Hanoi VNA in English 1413 GMT
20 Apr 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 20—A Vietnamese delegation led by Phan Hien, president of the Vietnam-US Friendship Society and former minister of justice, attended a

US-Vietnam economic seminar held in Chesterwood, Massachusetts, from April 15-18.

The seminar was attended by many Vietnamese and US economists, executives, businessmen, experts in law, banking and taxation.

The two sides compared notes on economic development in each country, the prospects of the relations between the two countries, and the possibilities of creating diversified forms of cooperation to help Vietnam and US businessmen have contacts and conduct cooperation and investment activities in a favourable and effective way.

The seminar took place in the spirit of goodwill and openness. The participants expressed their aspiration for the early lifting of embargo, thus ushering in a stage of economic cooperation beneficial to both countries.

The Vietnamese delegation called at Parker House in Boston the place where the late President Ho Chi Minh had worked. It also called on various US companies which want to do business in Vietnam.

The seminar was sponsored by the Vietnam-US Friendship Society and the Indochina reconciliation organization.

Minister Attends 3d UN Disarmament Conference

*BK2104073893 Hanoi VNA in English 0603 GMT
21 Apr 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 21—Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien attended the 3rd United Nations Disarmament Conference organised in Kyoto, Japan, on April 13-16.

The conference, which drew in 107 delegates from 32 countries, was devoted to the theme 'Disarmament and National Security in an Inter-dependent World'.

Speaking at the conference, Mr Nien and other delegates stressed that national sovereignty is a basic principle of prime importance in international relations as defined by the U.N. Charter and international laws.

With regard to peace and stability in Southeast Asia, Mr Nien said that regional security could be maintained only if the security of each nation was guaranteed, and that it was necessary to take measures for building mutual trust among regional nations.

Some delegates came out strong against the savage killings of ethnic vietnamese in Cambodia.

During his stay, Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Nien met with his Japanese counterpart, Mr Koji Kakizawa, and other delegations.

After the conference, the delegates made a tour of Hiroshima and Nagasaki towns.

Le Phuoc Tho Attends Party Organization's Conference

*BK2004103993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in
Vietnamese 1200 GMT 10 Apr 93*

[Text] The Central Committee's Organization Department held a conference in Hanoi from 8-10 April, to review phase one and deploy phase two of a drive for party renovation and rectification in northern provinces in compliance with the party Central Committee's third plenum resolution.

Attending the conference were Comrade Le Phuoc Tho, member of party Central Committee Political Bureau and head of Central Committee's Organization Department; Le Huy Ngo and Nguyen Van An, members of party Central Committee and deputy heads of the party Central Committee's Organization Department. Also attending were the leading comrades and the cadres in charge of party organization in various northern localities.

So far, 34 provinces and cities have reviewed the first phase of activity, thus effecting initial changes for the better in the organizational rectification of the party and in the consolidation of the system of party organizations from the central down to the grass-roots levels. These localities have established their party affairs committees and party and youth union organizations in a bulk of public organs and mass organizations at central level, and at the same time, have established the system of party affairs sections at the central level as well as in various provinces and cities. Some party organizations have set up operating regulations to substantiate their functions and tasks. Many party organizations have held training courses for their party committee members in order to guide them on how to perform their functions and duties and to establish operating regulations. In certain localities, attention has been given to renovating and improving the quality of their activities of their grass-roots party committee echelons.

At the end of phase one, many party committee echelons have realized better the real situation of the contingent of cadres, and started to form a plan to cultivate more leading cadres, especially alternative cadres for provincial and city party standing committees.

The conference also discussed and suggested measures to establish operating regulations and the relations of work for the cadre affairs sections at various levels while working out plans to improve the quality of the contingent of party members.

The conference set forth some main tasks to be done in the period ahead in order to implement effectively those points outlined in the Party Central Committee's third plenum resolution on party renovation and rectification in view of the current situation.

HCMC Police-People Unity Thwarts Rebels

BK2104061593 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 25 Mar 93 p 1-2

["Firmly Maintain Peaceful Life"]

[Text] The city police recently released the following notice:

"Recently a group of reactionaries attempted to set off explosions and set fire to some public establishments, residential areas, and markets with the intention of creating a situation of artificial unrest in Ho Chi Minh City [HCMC]. However, the city's security forces promptly discovered and stopped the scheme, arrested the reactionaries, and confiscated their equipment."

We wholeheartedly congratulate all the cadres and combatants in the security forces for this success.

We wholeheartedly congratulate the compatriots of all walks of life who have cooperated closely with the security forces in discovering in time and effectively foiling the scheme of the reactionary group.

The success of the security forces and the people in the city is an important contribution to maintaining political stability and the people's peaceful life. The event has again proved that once our people decide to protect their peaceful life and strengthen solidarity and cooperation with our security forces, we can crush all sabotage schemes of the reactionary forces.

For the past few years, surpassing all hardships and difficulties, our city as well as our country have advanced firmly. Everyone of us still remembers the happy days of the last Lunar New Year of the Rooster, the most joyous of all Tet holidays we have had for many years. All those who love their country and their people should have felt happy for our economic development, price stability, expanded foreign relations, and the political stability of the country. At this point of time, there is nothing more important for our people than peace so we can labor and do business, research and study, work, and enjoy recreation in order to overcome all ordeals and difficulties, amass wealth for ourselves and for our country, and receive more and more friends, businessmen, and scholars to visit our people. That has also been the wish that many generations fought and sacrificed for so that we now have the right to mastery of our country, the right to decide and construct our life according to our own will.

Some reactionary forces against the people of Vietnam have been bitter towards our people's achievements in the renovation, even though they are just initial successes. They do not want to see stability and progress in Vietnam. They are enraged at seeing millions of Vietnamese people overcome hunger and poverty, hundreds of thousands of others become millionaires, including many young people, and tens of thousands of intellectuals and students incessantly bring forth scientific and technological initiatives for their beloved country. The

reactionary group even intended to blast residential areas and market places. Do they feel hostility toward the Vietnamese people wanting to follow the course of a free market economy? They themselves are going against the current stream.

We are determined to continue on the renovation path we have already chosen. We are determined to protect our people's sovereignty and independence. We are determined to maintain peaceful life for our people. As a result, we will not allow any reactionary forces to undermine the developmental trend of the city as well as that of the country. We are not extreme or unscientific, though some have alleged that we "see enemies wherever we look." The reality is that we "see patriotic Vietnamese everywhere," and that is why we won. But we are absolutely not subjective or simplistic enough to believe that everything always goes smoothly, "people from all four oceans are brothers," and no one is opposed to us anymore. Heightened vigilance is always a requirement of real life. It is not a secret, not a professional duty that can be left to security forces alone. High vigilance is a necessary virtue of all those who ardently care about the sovereignty, independence, and peaceful happiness of the people, as well as the renovation undertaking of our country. And it is a practical virtue that anyone of us can practice in his daily life.

The reactionary forces will never give up their schemes. The people of Ho Chi Minh City will strengthen unity and assist the security forces to provide better protection to our peaceful life while opening wide our door to welcome friends and honest businessmen from abroad. Our people's "magic reflecting mirror" and our people's magic hands will never yield to any wicked schemes.

Vice Minister Denies Military Action in Cambodia

93P30043A

[Editorial Report] On 13 March the Ho Chi Minh City TUOI TRE newspaper in Vietnamese published on page 12 an article by Bui Thanh saying that on 12 March the Foreign Ministry held a conference for the international press on the 10 March massacre of Vietnamese civilians by the Khmer Rouge at a fishing village near Siemrap.

Opening the conference, Vice Minister Le Mai said that there was confirmed proof that the perpetrator of that massacre, as well as two previous ones, was the Khmer Rouge faction. He added that before the massacre, a Khmer Rouge spokesman had told the press that the Vietnamese at the fishing village were being directed from Vietnam. Vice Minister Le Mai emphasized that though the Khmer Rouge claim was a "blatant false accusation" which had been refuted by the Vietnamese Government, "it proved that the massacre had been planned in advance."

He also claimed that the massacre had taken place 10 days after UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] had concluded that three Vietnamese residents

working and living in Cambodia were members of a foreign armed force, and two days after the United Nations Security Council had issued a resolution on Cambodia, and added that the two developments had encouraged the Khmer Rouge to "commit their criminal acts." The massacre had taken place in the presence of UNTAC and "in a Cambodia covered by a peace agreement enforced and respected by many nations," he stated.

Vice Minister Le Mai also denied rumors of unusual military action on the border. "The present situation in Cambodia," he said, "clearly is threatening to the Vietnamese community there, but does not yet constitute a danger to the security of Vietnam's own territory. Therefore, reports of Vietnamese military activity are not true."

In response to a REUTER question if any "unilateral action" by Vietnam could be expected in the event that "multilateral actions had no satisfactory result," Vice Minister Le Mai replied "We will do everything we can do" so that unilateral action will not eventuate.

When the KYODO correspondent asked if Vietnam had any plans to repatriate the Vietnamese living in Cambodia, and if efforts to resolve the problem were unsuccessful, Vice Minister Le Mai said that the issue of those Vietnamese residents would be resolved by talks between the Vietnamese Government and the new government of Cambodia which will emerge from the upcoming general election.

Asked about the number of Vietnamese living in Cambodia, Vice Minister Le Mai said presently, there were about 100,000 Vietnamese civilians living and working there, a number much smaller than the half-million under Prince Sihanouk.

More Than Half of Voluntary Returnees Get Jobs

*BK1704153993 Hanoi VNA in English 1350 GMT
17 Apr 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 17—More than half of the total of 11,253 people of working age voluntarily repatriated from 'refugee camps' abroad in 1992 have got jobs, and 20 percent of others are attending job-training centres, said an official report of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalid and Social Affairs.

In 1992 Vietnam received 17,232 returnees who had illegally emigrated, and had been kept at 'refugee camps' abroad. This year it plans to receive between 15,000 and

20,000 voluntary repatriates. To create jobs for them and integrate them into the community, there are about 50 projects afoot with an expected aid of 1.3 million US dollars from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Vu Oanh Attends Fatherland Front Conference

*BK1904142593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Apr 93*

[Text] The Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee recently held its regular conference in Hanoi to review 1992 tasks and discuss orientations and tasks for 1993. Attending the conference were Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrade Phan Van Khai, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and deputy prime minister; and Comrade Truong My Hoa, secretary of the party Central Committee.

Appraising the tasks of the front in 1992, Comrade Pham Van Triet, vice chairman and general secretary of the VFF Central Committee, pointed out the significant achievements scored by the front at all levels in various fields. Those who attended the conference agreed that in 1993 the front will continue to cooperate with the government and its members organizations to carry out the task aimed at strengthening socioeconomic development, mobilizing the people to develop their right to mastery, and building, supervising, and protecting the administration. Efforts will be made to formulate and implement cultural and social policies and to consolidate the organization and implementation of front activities in various locales.

The conference heard a report on preparations for the fourth VFF Congress and contributed suggestions to the draft report and draft amendments to the VFF regulations. The fourth VFF Congress will be held in late 1993.

Speaking on behalf of the government, Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai congratulated the front at all levels for its achievements in cooperation with the government to contribute to building the socialist democracy and the law-governed state, and to mobilize the people to participate in charitable and other social activities such as the struggle against hunger and poverty and the movement to amass wealth legally.

The comrade affirmed that these results proved that cooperation between the government and the Vietnam Fatherland Front has been increasingly strengthened, thus contributing actively to the achievements of the country as a whole.

Australia

Evans, Cook Announce New Foreign Policy, Trade Objectives

BK2104055893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Australia has outlined a set of foreign policy priorities for the next three years which give a strong emphasis to trade along with traditional security issues.

Australia's foreign minister, Gareth Evans, said the policy could be characterized as middle power diplomacy with Asia-Pacific orientation. Senator Evans and the trade minister, Peter Cook, have said the priorities set by the Labor Government following its election victory last month were to consolidate Australia's integration with the Asia-Pacific region, help global trade liberalization, strengthen the Asia-Pacific regional security environment, work for further arms control and disarmament measures, enhance the United Nations, and to support Universal human rights, and maintain a strong commitment to oversee development assistance. [passage omitted]

The new trade minister, Peter Cook, says more effort will be put into promoting the national trade strategy to coordinate industry and government efforts to boost trade. Senator Cook said the government will also give high priority to fulfilling its election promises to create an Asia economic center and to establish an annual trade and investment outlook conference.

The economic center would provide detailed analysis of Asian economies while the conference would survey trade prospects. Senator Cook had asked the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for an internal review on how its structures, priorities, and activities support Australia's trading efforts. The department is also being asked to become more closely involved with the business community. Senator Cook begins his first overseas trip as trade minister this week with a visit to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Singapore.

Fiji

Government Turns Attention Toward Japanese Tourism Dollars

BK1904032693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0321 GMT
19 Apr 93

[Text] Suva, April 19 (AFP)—Japan has become an increasingly key source of tourism dollars for Fiji and its importance is expected to expand further, Fiji Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka said. Rabuka, opening the Japan Travel Bureau's first office in Fiji on Saturday, said tourism earned the island republic a record 300 million Fiji dollars (195 million U.S.) in foreign exchange in 1991, surpassing sugar as the country's leading revenue earner. The bureau has 400 offices in Japan and 62 around the world.

"The opening of an office in Fiji is a sure sign that the Japanese market is on track for further expansion," Mr Rabuka said. "The Fiji Government cannot be indifferent to an industry, which has become the country's largest foreign exchange earner and employs 40,000 people," he said.

Rabuka said Fiji could expect a larger part of the Japanese tourist market, adding that Japanese arrivals in 1992 increased 29 percent to 36,000 and could rise to 50,000 by 1995. Fiji's flag carrier, Air Pacific, flies a twice-weekly service between Nadi and Narita and has gained approval for two flights a week to Kansai in Osaka. The new route is expected to commence operations early next year.

Nationalists: Rabuka Threatens National Interests

BK1604063493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0538 GMT
16 Apr 93

[Text] Suva, April 16 (AFP)—Fiji's nationalist Taukei Movement, which was behind the 1987 military coups, stepped up its attacks Friday on Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, virtually charging him with selling out Fijian interests to the Indian community. Rabuka, the former military strongman who led the coups, was accused in full-page advertisements published in Fiji's two major dailies of "sympathising more with the Indian community."

Taukei chairman Taniela Veitata, who leads the powerful Fiji Waterfront and Seamen's Union, said in the advertisement Rabuka's sympathy for the Indians would lead to the surrender of most of the areas Fijians had achieved in the 1990 constitution. "The interests and aspirations of the Fijian people cannot be sacrificed for the political survival of one person," added Veitata, a former labour minister in the interim government of Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

The constitution, widely criticised as being racist, gave Fijians a permanent parliamentary majority of 37 seats in a 70-seat House of Representatives. Ethnic Indians were given 27 seats and other minorities six.

Veitata said Rabuka had made public utterances on issues which should be condemned because they compromised Fijian interests and aspirations. These included the power-sharing elements of his proposed government of national unity, the extension of leases of Fijian-owned land to the Indians and the possible return of the cross-voting electoral system. Rabuka was also criticised for reported remarks last weekend in which he said ministers who criticised him were cowards because they did not identify themselves publicly.

"The present government through their powers to legislate must work towards the fulfilment of the interests and aspirations of the Fijian people as contained in the 1990 constitution," Veitata said. "The choice is in the hands of our leaders to promote Taukei (Fijian) Unity and bring about economic and political stability or

promote a government of national unity and bring about the downfall of the Fijian people," said Veitata. Rabuka was not available for comment Friday.

New Zealand

Minister: No Intervention in Timber Export Business

BK1504074293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0727 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Wellington, April 15 (AFP)—The New Zealand Government will not intervene in the timber export business despite soaring prices threatening the viability of some local millers and timber merchants, Forestry Minister John Falloon said Thursday [15 April]. He said other countries had imposed quotas and taxes on exports, and had even banned offshore sales.

"The reality is that if they were applied in New Zealand you would probably choke off investment in planting, you may well choke off further investment in processing," Falloon told reporters. "There would be demands for price control on timber." He said he wanted forest owners and the sawmilling industry to work through "this very difficult situation."

His comments came as prices for export logs to Asia soar, squeezing forest owners to sell off-shore rather than locally where industry is finding it difficult to compete with foreign buyers.

"If those export prices come through full steam ahead, we're talking about timber price rises in the order of 70 to 100 percent," Falloon said. "One doesn't know whether the market can absorb that." He did not think, however, that the full impact of export prices would hit the local market and the government intended keeping the pressure on forest owners to maintain supplies at below export values.

But he said some companies were putting pressure on small sawmillers. "If they continue to do that and supply the export log market exclusively because the prices are

rising so fast, then I'll be pretty angry with them and we'll be talking to them directly," he said.

Solomon Islands

Prime Minister Orders News Blackout on Arms Purchase

BK2004095493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] Solomon Islands Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni is reported to have ordered the country's national broadcaster to withdraw news items about the Solomons' buying arms for its border police. Mr. Mamaloni is said to have personally ordered the SIBC [Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation] to withdraw a report that contained an admission by the country's police commissioner, Fred (Soarki), that the government had commissioned a local businessman to order arms from Singapore last year.

Mr. (Soarki) made the admission yesterday after claims by the Papua New Guinea acting foreign minister, John Nilkare, that the businessman, identified as Mr. (Wisato), was buying arms for the Solomons police and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

Police Chief Reveals Arms Purchase From Singapore

BK1904083693 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 19 Apr 93

[Text] Solomon Islands has revealed that it commissioned a local businessman to order \$600,000 [currency not further specified] worth of arms from Singapore last year.

The Commissioner of Police, Fred (Soarki), who did not want to reveal what arms were bought, said the government went through the businessman Mr. (Eisato) because nobody else knew a faster way of getting the arms. Mr. (Soarki) says the situation on the border with Papua New Guinea was getting worse and the country's police field force needed arms instead of only truncheons.